

The Romulus Roman

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SOUND OFF



729-4006

Sound Off 729-4006 is an opinion forum. A place for readers to comment or unwind. To join in, please call 729-4006 after 5 p.m. on weekdays and anytime over the weekend. Please leave longer messages at our web site at www.micomnews.com. Callers must not slander the good citizens of Western Wayne County. Readers must be aware that Sound Off callers' opinions are not presented as facts. MCN neither shares nor endorses callers' opinions. We only provide a place for our readers to speak freely.

Grocery store strikes making it too costly for caller to eat

I'm not against unions. I was a union worker for 30 years.

I don't know what the answer is, but it's like automobiles. you can't afford to buy a new automobile anymore.

It's getting to the point where you almost can't afford to eat anymore. Is there an alternative to the strikes at the grocery store? Possibly a rollback so the price of food can be reduced.

Think about it.

Did Gov. Engler cheap out on election year pothole repairs?

Do you think Gov. Engler approved the deep well to divert attention from all the deep potholes he patched a few years ago with just enough asphalt to get himself reelected?

Most of the potholes have come back bigger and badder than they were before the governor's quick fix.

With our high gas tax, I shouldn't have to pay for tires and car repairs.

Road construction work shouldn't be started without plans

The construction company that abandoned Morton-Taylor Road ought to be forced to spend some rush hour time trying to go north or south in Canton.

All that work has created is more bottlenecks.

I don't think that construction work ought to be started without doable plans.

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City may sue state over well

Spaghetti dinner to benefit Shannon

By Gena Giannuzzi
MCN Special Writer

Shannon Spicer is a 9 year old little girl fighting a disease that no child should ever have to suffer. Shannon was diagnosed on October 26th 2000 with Leukemia. Leukemia is a form of cancer that attacks the blood cells. Fortunately Shannon doesn't have to face this fight alone. She is surrounded by a loving family and a community that is banding together to help her family in their time of need.

Jackie Belinc, Shannon's neighbor, and owner of Jackie's Open Pit Restaurant, came up with the idea for a benefit spaghetti dinner. Belinc, who has been deeply effected by Shannon's fight against Leukemia, said, "I just want to do what I can do."

Belinc has lined up donations from Gordon's Food Service, Sam's Club, MAS Distributors, the Texas Roadhouse, and hotel rooms from Day's Inn. People have donated computers, and money, and the VFW donated the hall for the dinner. Belinc added, "People can donate or come. They can even show up at the door."

"When Jackie found out about Shannon she called me crying, and asked what she could do to help. She has done a lot for our family. She is a wonderful person," said Barb Burch, Shannon's mother.

Also affected by Shannon's fight against Leukemia is Shannon's gym teacher at Halecreek Elementary, Bill Baum, who said that Shannon is well liked, and an exceptional child.

Baum is also helping with the spaghetti dinner. He has coordinated over 40 volunteers to help out at the high school as well as sponsored a school fundraiser on Shannon's behalf last December.

"Shannon loves everything. She loves to run, jump rope, and play games. She is always happy, and positive," Baum said. Baum who also teaches Shannon's twin sister Shelby, and 11 year old brother Jesse said, "They are all good kids."

Shannon's mom says that she is like any other kid. "Shannon loves to be with her Grandma and Grandpa. She likes to go to the movies, ride her scooter, swim, and ride horses."

However, all of these things will have to wait for now. Shelby is currently undergoing weekly chemotherapy injections, her immune system is down, and she is too sick to go to school.

Mrs. Burch said, "She is going through the harder phases of chemo, and has been really sick this time. It is hard to explain to a nine year old that even though this is making her sick right now it is supposed to make her better."

Jessie and Shelby took it really hard at first. They get upset when they see Shannon throwing up and crying because she is so sick, but they know to just keep on praying for her. Shelby said she would even give a kidney,



Shannon Spicer

bone marrow, or anything to help her sister."

For a 9 year old, Shannon knows a lot about what is happening to her. She has to get spinal taps on a regular basis, and takes a lot of medicine, but she understands what medication she gets, what their effects are, and how much to take. She had to get a Broviac Catheter surgically implanted in her chest for the chemo injections, and even knows how to flush her own tube.

Mrs. Burch is having to learn a lot about Shannon's medical care too, as she will soon be required to give her own daughter chemo injections in her Broviac Catheter at home on a daily basis.

The chemotherapy has been hard on Shannon, not only because it is making her sick, but because she is going to lose all of her long, red hair. She had to get her hair cut short at the beginning because the doctors said it would make the complete loss much easier on her, but her hair is currently thinning.

"It is hard on Shannon to lose her hair, not only because she is a girl, but because she is a twin," said her mother.

Shannon still has 20 more months of chemotherapy to go. She will be on chemo for two years. At the end of the 2 years she will be checked again to see if the cancer is in remission. She wants to have an 'I'm off of chemo' party when the treatments end.

"I don't know how we could get through this without our faith," Mrs. Burch emphasized.

The family attends Emmanuel Baptist Church in Carleton. "They have been awesome. We have a great church family, and we have wonderful friends. Our church friends have been there right along with us. Shannon's hospital room was filled with people every single day. People cooked meals everyday. Neighbors were also helping out with my kids."

"Shannon has learned a lot about people, and how good they can be. At Christmas her grandmother wrote the paper asking people to send Christmas cards to encourage Shannon. People sent Christmas cards from all over. One lady invited us out to Dearborn to ride horses. That is when

Shannon fell in love with horse back riding. She is on prayer lists all over. We even got a card from someone in Virginia where prayer requests had been placed in a church bulletin there," added Mrs. Burch.

Shannon plans to graduate from high school, and go to college to become a nurse so she can work at 7 Mott which is the floor where children with cancer are placed. She wants to help the kids there fight their fight against cancer by sharing how she survived cancer.

"I hope she does it because she will end up being such a testimony to other people," said Mrs. Burch.

Shannon's medical bills are just starting to pour in. When Shannon gets too sick to go to school her mother stays home from work to take care of her, and has had to take medical leave several times for this, affecting the family's income.

Mrs. Burch said, "The medical bills are going to be somewhat overwhelming, but all that matters is that Shannon is healthy."

Mrs. Burch, a school district employee, read on an internet website for children how many families have lost their jobs and homes because of all the work they have missed. "I am blessed that they have been so good at my work," she said. Her husband, John Burch, works at Master Automatic in Plymouth.

People at the school, neighbors, and Burch's church family have sold tickets to the benefit Spaghetti dinner to help them with their bills. Burch expressed her amazement and gratitude at all that people are doing for her family.

"It takes more than just the child to fight the Leukemia. It takes everybody. I don't know how anybody could make it without all the help that we've been blessed with," she concluded.

The "Friends of Shannon Spicer" Spaghetti Dinner will be March 10th from 12 - 7 p.m. at the VFW Hall on 39270 Huron River Drive. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children, and takeout is available. Tickets are available for presale or at the door. For more information contact Jackie Belinc at 734/941-3671 or Bill Baum at 734/941-0536.

By JIM RAREY
MCN Special Writer

The Romulus City Council, at its March 5th meeting, authorized the hiring of an attorney to investigate the feasibility of filing a lawsuit against the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). At issue is the permit granted by MDEQ to EDS on Feb. 22nd for construction of a storage and treatment facility at its hazardous waste injection well site on Citrin Drive in Romulus.

Mayor William Oakley estimated the cost of the feasibility study, and lawsuit if warranted, would run between \$10,000 and \$25,000. Any lawsuit would have to be filed in a circuit court no later

than 21 days from the Feb. 22 date the permit was issued.

At the same time the hiring of the attorney was approved, the council authorized Mayor Oakley to sign an "Interlocal" agreement with Taylor and Wayne County to share costs of fighting the injection well.

The mayor said several questions had been raised about the agreement that needed to be resolved with the Corporation Counsel (city attorney) before committing the city. If the other two parties (Taylor and Wayne County) approve any changes made by Oakley, each party would pay one third of all costs incurred by common agreement.

DEQ & RECAP Agree Well issue may limit city development

By JIM RAREY
MCN Special Writer

Well Issue May Limit City Development

Apparently the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and RECAP (or one of its allies) agree on at least one thing. The well issue may affect the community's economic future.

However, the two antagonists arrived at that conclusion from opposite directions.

Comments from "interested parties" and the DEQ responses were published in a "Responsiveness Summary" included with the final permit for EDS's storage and treatment facility at its Citrin Drive site in Romulus.

One such comment opined, "Given the inevitable nuisances, health risk, and stigma associated with hazardous waste facilities, the EDS facility will limit the community's economic future."

The DEQ response retorted, "The characterization of the facility as a nuisance and health risk to the community is not supported by any evidence and only serves to perpetuate false public perceptions. Those false perceptions are a greater threat to the community's economic future" (Emphasis added.) What "false" perceptions did the DEQ have in mind?

One of the tactics RECAP has used in its campaign against the well is sponsorship of "information" about a hazardous waste facility in Winona, Texas. The presentations have had a tremendous emotional impact on those exposed to them. Allegations are made that the facility was responsible for all kinds of horrible birth defects, cancer rates and other environmental depredations. The implication is that the same kinds of things would result from the EDS operation.

In the Responsiveness Summary

ry, the DEQ attempted to blunt those perceptions by pointing out, among other things, that the Texas facility was not comparable to the EDS operation.

Since RECAP claims the DEQ cannot be believed since Governor Engler and the entire DEQ organization have been "bought" by campaign contributions, this reporter contacted Federal and State environmental officials in Texas familiar with the Winona operation to obtain an unbiased report.

Telephone interviews were conducted with the federal director of EPA's region six, one of his environmental investigators, and the state District Director of Texas' equivalent of the DEQ responsible for the area including Winona.

All three officials were unanimous in reporting the problems in Winona were caused by the surface processing facility, not the injection well itself. The operation was a "fuel blending" process, not one of merely neutralizing industrial wastes and injecting into the well, as the EDS operation would be.

Essentially, in Winona, contaminated fuel was received, separated from the contamination, and then reconstituted and sold. Most of the fuel was received in 55-gallon drums (barrels) which were later crushed and recycled for the metal content. It was the barrel crushing operation, which caused most of the odor problems that constituted 90% of complaints.

Because the chemicals being handled were flammable with explosive vapors (which would never be allowed in Michigan, according to the DEQ) the facility experienced several explosions and other emissions.

The Texas officials said they had found no evidence to support the allegations of birth defects and high cancer rates caused by the Winona facility.

Romulus Schools get "D"

Romulus receives "D" rating from survey

Romulus Schools earned a "D" rating, in a report card of all school districts in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, compiled by the Detroit News, in consultation with education efforts.

Last year, the same surveyors gave Romulus a "C-". The total score for Romulus, which is calculated based on more than 3000 pieces of data, was 19.5. Last year the total score was 22.

Scores ranged from a high of 45.75 which was obtained by Grosse Ile, to a low of 11.92 claimed by Lincoln Park.

Some of the more significant

factors inscoring 19.5, included a 6.5% dropout rate and a composite ACT score of 18.

Romulus's rather low MEAP scores didn't help their overall grade. Aggregate scores showed fourth graders scoring in the 59 percentile; fifth graders averaging 44.1; seventh graders dipping to 35.6; and eighth graders scoring 32.6. The high school MEAP, which is administered to eleventh graders showed Romulus scoring a dismal 35.9%.

One factor that was very positive for Romulus is the fact that all Romulus schools are accredited by the North Central Association.

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Theater Entertains Students

The Good Time Theater Co. presented a program on astounding stories to Merriman students. Actors left to right Jason Dubrowski, Brad Cummings, Kira Katz. Students left to right Mercedes Williams, Alyssa Watts, Kyle Stevens, Janette Gula, Michael St. Jacques.



Faculty rules in Barth volleyball

Barth staff readies for staff-student volleyball game. 1st row (left to right) John Watts, Denise Bills, Joseph Commander Jr. and 2nd row (left to right) Sheila Stasak, Julie Kovar, Rob Baty, Lori Fritz, Diane Golka, Paimci Pal, Diane Zimkiewicz and Charles Wood. Faculty had 2 wins - students 1 win + 1 tie with 4 6th grade teams.

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NEWS FROM THE CITY OF WAYNE

Wayne Memorial senior has designed a blueprint for success

He's been offered over \$306,600 in scholarships

Eric Konopka is not your average high school student. In fact, the Wayne High senior is an extraordinary student who has been offered more than \$300,000 in college scholarships by colleges and universities across the country for his signature on a letter of intent. For good reasons. In addition to his 4.190 Grade Point Average (GPA), Konopka also scored 34 on his ACT and 1370 on his SAT tests. Those scores would lift any university president's eyebrows. He also happens to have maintained perfect attendance since fifth grade. An amazing feat. But, as phenomenal as these stats may be, this is **NOT** what makes Eric Konopka first in his class. Even with a class load including four Advanced Placement classes, Eric still finds time to volunteer for a variety of causes. At the Wayne Public Library, he has instructed library patrons on how to use the library's electronic card catalog system and the Internet. He is a tutor for fellow Spanish classmates.

As a Boy Scout, Eric also helped organize a project to distribute 9-volt smoke detector batteries and accompanying fire safety literature. At D-Bar-A Scout Ranch in Metamora, Mich. he volunteered as a counselor-in-training. He instructed campers in various areas that included first aid, emergency preparedness, cooking, survival skills and rowing. Through the Boy Scouts of America, Konopka also has achieved the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. His educational experience has included Advanced Place-

ment English, Spanish Literature and Chemistry. He has also taken summer courses in Ethics and Micro economics at Henry Ford Community College and has served as the President of the National Honor Society at Wayne Memorial High School since June 2000. Konopka has also attended two leadership workshops. At the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference in 1998 he learned about the importance of developing a sense of cultural awareness and about the value of volunteerism. At the Rotary Leadership Conference in 1999 he participated in many activities and discussions about the importance of leadership in life. Eric placed seventh out of 343 students in the State of Michigan for level three Spanish in the National Spanish Examination. He was the recipient of the *Good Kids, Good Citizens, Good Community* award by the City of Wayne in May 1999 for volunteer work performed at the Wayne Public Library. As time consuming as his school and volunteer schedules

are, Eric also finds time for a job. He is a Senior Systems Administrator at Technico, Ltd., in Dearborn. He sets up and maintains over 100 web servers and the company's network and facility. Konopka's college offers to date total over \$306,000. He plans to earn an MBA in Management Information Systems and eventually he hopes to start his own business. Now, there's a teen who has designed a blueprint for success.



On Stage

Six-year-old Madalyn Tenace of Wayne (seated) is among the cast members of the Dearborn Heights Civic Theater's March production of the old-time comedy, *Skidding*. The play will be staged at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, March 9, 10, 16 and 17, and at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 11 at the Berwyn Center, 26155 Richardson at Berwyn. With Madalyn is Emily Gedert, who plays Suzanne in the play. Did we mention that Madalyn has the role of Annabelle?

Taft has decided to 'pig out'

Taft Elementary School students have decided "to pig out." "Pig out" on books, that is. Because March is nationally designated as Reading Month, the Taft Galloway students are celebrating the occasion by having a "Pig Out on People of the Past", which translated means the kids will be reading about people who lived in the past. Teachers say the goal is to increase student enthusiasm for reading. Each class will also decorate their door, and if the students meet their Red Hot Reader criteria, Taft Galloway Principal Michael Hurley will eat with a real pig on stage on March 30 in the school gym. Say that that isn't true, Mr. Hurley.

D.A.R.E. to hold benefit hoops game

It's been a classic basketball duel between two disciplined and well-trained forces. And, it appears this year's shootout on the pine between the two teams that represent the City of Wayne's Police Officers and the City of Wayne's educational establishment will not be any different. When the Men in Blue clash with the Wayne teachers at 7 p.m. on March 15 at Wayne Memorial High School Alumni Arena there will be no losers, only winners. The benefit game is staged annually to help raise funds for the D.A.R.E. program. D.A.R.E. is an

acronym for *Drug Abuse Resistance Education*, a program to keep kids off of illegal drugs. The admission is \$1 and advance tickets are available at the Wayne Police Department. They are also available at local schools. By the way, children 12 and under will be admitted free of charge.

Family Resource hosts workshops

If you're a parent and are in need of some assistance or guidance, the Family Resource Center may be able to help. Family Resource Center staff announced this week that they will be conducting a series of workshops that focus on parenting. Programs cost between \$15 to \$25 per couple. The Resource Center is located at 33800 Grand Traverse in the City of Westland. The workshops are co-sponsored by the Wayne-Westland School District.

To register for any of the listed programs please call 734-595-2279. Here are the titles of the upcoming sessions:

• **Hot Parenting Tips** - How to parent without losing it. This class is eight weeks long and is held from 10 a.m. until noon on Tuesday, beginning March 20 or on Thursdays, from 7 to 9 p.m., beginning March 22. • **Everything You Need to Know About ADD/ADHD** will be conducted from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning March 7. This is a five-week course.

CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE FIREFIGHTER TESTING PROGRAM SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE NOTICE

The Fire Training Institute at Schoolcraft College is accepting registrations for the CWW Firefighter Testing Program. Successful completion of this test certifies a candidate's ability to perform tasks required of an entry-level firefighter. Registration forms are available at municipal personnel offices, the Fire Training Institute at Schoolcraft College-Radcliff, or may be obtained by calling the Schoolcraft College Assessment Center at 734-462-4806.

2001 Test Dates			
Saturdays between 10:00AM and 4:30PM			
Written test		Physical Agility test	
March 10 (R)	August 4 (L)	March 17	August 18
April 7 (R)	September 8 (R)	April 14	September 15
May 5 (L)	October 6 (R)	May 19	October 13
June 23 (R)	November 17 (R)	June 9	November 3
July 21 (L)		July 7	
Written tests take place at Schoolcraft College-Radcliff where noted or at Schoolcraft College's Livonia campus (L): 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI		All physical agility tests take place at Schoolcraft College-Radcliff (R) 1751 Radcliff Street Garden City, MI	

For further information, please call 734-462-4806. It is the policy of Schoolcraft College that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, creed, or handicap, be excluded from participating in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Board of Review for the City of Wayne will meet in Wayne City Council Chambers, 3355 S. Wayne Road, Wayne, Michigan on the following dates and times by appointment only for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll:

Meeting dates are as follows:

Date	Day	Appointment Time	Petition
March 19, 2001	Monday	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Residential
		1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Residential
March 20, 2001	Tuesday	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Residential
		7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Residential
March 21, 2001	Wednesday	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Poverty
		1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Commercial/Industrial


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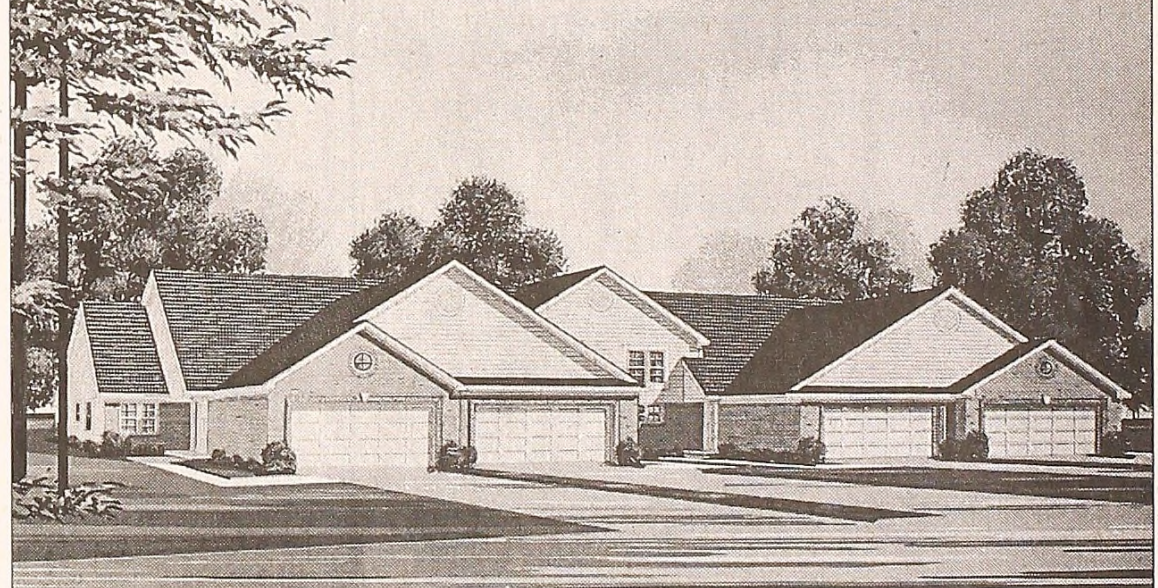
Agents for petitioners must submit, for each parcel individually, current letters with original signatures from your client properly authorizing you to appear for the property owner.

Review is by appointment only. If you have questions or desire an appointment, please call the Finance Department at 722-2000 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mary E. Carney
City Clerk

Publish: March 1, 2001
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MOVIE GUIDE



THE MEXICAN (R) 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30

SEE SPOT RUN (PG)

1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:45

3000 MILES TO GRACELAND (R)

2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40

HANNIBAL (R)

1:35, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

RECESS: SCHOOLS OUT (G)

1:00, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10

SWEET NOVEMBER (PG-13)

9:00 PM

TRAFFIC (R) 5 OSCAR NOMINATIONS

12:00, 3:00, 6:15, 9:10

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Library renamed in tribute to Hicks

A historian and writer was honored last week by a community grateful for her lifelong services to the city.

Leanna Hicks, who brought history to life through her tireless work, and a veteran journalist that has over the past half of century gathered, documented, authenticated artifacts and written about them as they pertain to the Village of Inkster and later the City of Inkster, was honored last week by state, county and local officials for her "labor of love."

In a special dedication ceremony, the Inkster Library Historical Commission, joined by Mayor Hilliard Hampton, Jr., and members of council, city and county officials, and friends celebrated the renaming of the Inkster Public Library. The public library henceforth will be called the *Leanna Hicks Library*.

Leanna Hicks, dressed in a pink dress and confined to a wheelchair, attended the ceremony. She thanked those in attendance for "this unique honor."

Mayor Hampton, along with Wayne County Commissioner Kay Beard, praised Hicks for her many contributions to the city. Each presented her with resolutions from their legislatures. They noted that Hicks has spent more than four decades preserving local history, improving the local library and enriching the lives of the community.

"She is one of the great ladies of our community and state," the mayor said. "Through her efforts, our past has been preserved."

Gloria Steele, longtime member of the Library and Historical Commission, unveiled a plaque inscribed with the words: *Leanna Hicks Library* and engraved on the same plaque was a quote from Author John Steinbeck, which reads: *How Will We Know It's Us Without Our Past?*



Inkster Mayor Hilliard Hampton, Jr., at right) presents Leanna Hicks with a council resolution during ceremonies last week. Also pictured above are council members Wanda Harris-Foster who also serves as mayor pro tem (from left), DeArtriss Richardson and Marcus Hendricks. In photo at right is a plaque in tribute to historian Leanna Hicks and a quote from author John Steinbeck. Photos by Carl M. Brown

na Hicks Library and engraved on the same plaque was a quote from Author John Steinbeck, which reads: *How Will We Know It's Us Without Our Past?*

Steele noted in the tribute to Hicks that..."Through her service over 40 years as current vice-president (she also is a president emeritus) of the Inkster Library Board of Trustees, and vice-president of the Inkster Historical Commission, she has overseen hundreds of acquisitions and improvements in our library and historical collections."

"She is the founder of *The Friends of the Inkster Library*, a 20 year old Inkster Library support group. She has held positions with the Wayne County Federation Library and the Wayne County Library Commission."

Over the years, Leanna Hicks's byline has appeared in

The Inkster Ledger Star on numerous articles about the city. (The *Ledger Star* is one of six community newspapers published by Michigan Community Newspapers). She earned a degree in Journalism and Social Science from Eastern Michigan University and Wayne State University.

Over the years, Hicks has been the recipient of scores of awards and she also has been very active in the YWCA, Girl Scouts of America, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, the City of Inkster's Parks and Recreation Commission and Inkster's Christians In Action.

Members of the Historical Commission also include: Sandra Markwart, chairperson; Leanna Hicks, vice chairperson; Constance Carroll, treasurer; Stephany Howell, program coordinator; Gloria Steele, Chaplain; and Margaret Goolsby, Historian.

The program also featured historian James Mason, who gave the audience an insight on the *Buffalo Soldiers*, a cavalry regiment made up of colored men who fought alongside of Theodore Roosevelt and the Rough Riders in the Spanish American War. Prior to the Spanish American War, the regiment participated in the Indian War campaigns of the late 1800's.

Hicks has been a member of the Springhill Missionary Baptist Church congregation for the past 50 years.

Weakened by illness in recent months, Leanna Hicks has had to cut back on her activities.

But her heart, she says, will always be with the youth and the people of the community.

A man of Steele celebrates his 101st birthday

He must be made of steel that Clifford Steele. He's survived a score of American presidents, several wars, including World War I and World War II and, on March 2, he celebrated his 101st birthday.

A belated "Happy Birthday" to you, Mr. Steele, from all of us out here.

Clifford Steele was born on March 2, 1890 in Savannah, Georgia. Roosevelt - that's Teddy Roosevelt - was getting ready to move into the White House for an eight-year stint as president.

About that time, Steele made his debut into this world in Georgia. His family moved to the Detroit area in 1923. Clifford Steele found employment as a pipefitter at the Ford Rouge Plant in Dearborn.

And he worked for Ford's until June 30, 1965 when he retired.

"My father is tough, and as lovable a person that anyone can find," says Mozella Steele, Clifford's daughter. "He's a longtime resident of Inkster, and a member of Unity Baptist Church in Detroit."

Now get this you younger folks, who sob about aches and pains, "until 1998, my father was still doing plumbing work in his neighborhood," says Mazella.



Clifford Steele

borhood," says Mazella.

The father of four - the late Clifford Steele, Jr., Gloria (James) Hall of Kansas City, Edsel (Mable) Steele of Inkster and Mozella Steele of Detroit - Clifford Steele still finds time to garden, a hobby he attributes his good health to, and he is an avid reader.

Clifford's family also includes daughter-in-law Olga Steele of Florida; sister, Esther Lanier of Savannah, Georgia, and Rebecca Miller of Inkster. There is also a sister-in-law, Katie Steele, who resides in Inkster.

There are plenty of nieces of nephews and eight grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and three great, great grandchildren.

Inkster resident awarded doctorate

An Inkster resident has successfully completed his work for a doctorate in philosophy at Cambridge University.

Cambridge has conferred the doctorate upon Christopher Archer Thompson, son of Lewis Thompson and Carrie Thompson of Inkster.

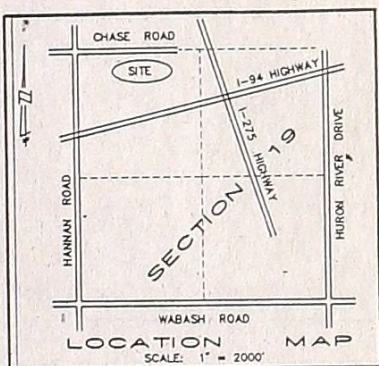
Dr. Thompson received his doctorate in the field of Political Science. He received his masters in International Relations. He has

also completed extensive studies in International Arms Control and Nuclear Disarmament at Troy State University.

A 1980 graduate of Inkster High School, Dr. Thompson did his underclass work at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University where he was awarded a bachelors and associates degree in professional aeronautics, with a minor in aviation systems, safety and aerospace maintenance.

CITY OF ROMULUS PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised, that the City of Romulus Planning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held Monday, March 19, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. Prevailing Eastern Time in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485. The purpose of the meeting is to consider PC-2000-062, a request from J & T Towing for Special Use Land Approval for a contracting operation to be located at 38905 Chase Road [DP# 047 01 0142 003] located in an M-1 (Light Industrial) zoned district.



All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request. Written comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon, Monday, March 19, 2001 and should be addressed to Bradley Raymond, Director, Building, Safety and Engineering Department, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: March 8, 2001

Call Michigan Community Newspapers at 729-4000 for information on how to subscribe to your local newspaper.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, March 28, 2001 at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111.

This Public Hearing relates to a proposed amendment to the Township Zoning Ordinance, 6-2-92, as amended to revise regulations pertaining to parking lot standards.

Copies of the proposed amendment are available at the Department of Developmental Services.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

In the spirit of compliance with the American Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: March 2, 2001
Publish: March 8, 2001
March 22, 2001

CITY OF INKSTER INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Inkster will receive sealed bids at the OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 2121 Inkster Road, Inkster, Michigan until 11:15 A.M. Thursday, March 22, 2001 at which time and place bids will be publicly opened and read for

DIESEL GENERATOR FOR CITY HALL

Specifications and bid forms are available in the Purchasing Department, 2121 Inkster Road, Inkster, Michigan 48141. Information regarding specifications should be directed to Mr. Philip Hamilton, M.I.S. Manager, at (313) 563-3212, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

THE CITY OF INKSTER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO AWARD SPLIT BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY IRREGULARITIES AND ACCEPT ANY BID IT MAY DEEM TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CITY.

Kimberly Turner
Inkster City Clerk
2121 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141

Publish: March 8, 2001

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DATA/VIDEO PROJECTOR

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Kimberly Turner
Inkster City Clerk
2121 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141

Publish: March 8, 2001

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INSTALLING EQUIPMENT AND GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR A TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/MOTOR CARRIER VEHICLE

Specifications and bid forms are available in the Purchasing Department, 2121 Inkster Road, Inkster, Michigan 48141. Information regarding specifications should be directed to Mr. Jerome Bivins, Superintendent, at (313) 563-2821, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

THE CITY OF INKSTER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO AWARD SPLIT BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY IRREGULARITIES AND ACCEPT ANY BID IT MAY DEEM TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CITY.

Kimberly Turner
Inkster City Clerk
2121 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141

Publish: March 8, 2001

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY OF INKSTER

2001 BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF THE CITY OF INKSTER WILL MEET AT THE BOOKER T. DOZIER RECREATION COMPLEX, 2025 Middlebelt Road, on the following days for the purpose of hearing the complaints of all persons considering themselves aggrieved by the assessments made against their property.

MONDAY, March 19, 2001

10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
and
2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, March 20, 2001

10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
and
3:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Additional meetings, if needed, will be held at the discretion of the Board of Review.

Please refer to your last tax bill for Legal Description and Tax Code Number.

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT (313) 563-4271.

Kimberly Turner
Inkster City Clerk
2121 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141

Publish: March 8, 2001
March 15, 2001

NEWS FROM THE CITY OF WESTLAND

Group formed to take drunk drivers off Westland's roads

What to do when your designated driver is sloshed

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

It's closing time and your designated driver is falling off his stool. How do you get home?

Do you call a taxi? Risk an accident or an arrest driving home? Or sleep it off your designated driver's car?

Unfortunately, bar drinkers without a sober driver find themselves in a safety and legal quandary. Especially so with the legal blood alcohol content limit

owners will be able to deduct their contributions.

To advance the program, Ward is seeking support from government officials, from the Westland City Council to Gov. John Engler; from community organizations,

such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving; and citizens.

For more information, call Ward days at (313) 909-7730 or evenings at (734) 467-5188. Or E-mail him at freefall7@webtv.net.

*Do you call a taxi?
Risk an accident
or an arrest
driving home?
Or sleep it in your
designated
driver's car?*

of .1 percent, and Westland police cracking down on late night drunk drivers.

Consequently, Scott Ward has created Home Safe, a designated driver program that provides drinkers with free rides home from Westland bars and restaurants.

"It's a viable alternative to drunk driving," he said.

The cost of the ride will be paid by the bar or restaurant owner.

Ward created the program to save lives on the road and to protect bar owners from lawsuits resulting from drunk patrons accidents.

Home Safe will work through bar owners. Its drivers will be available between the hours of 8 p.m. and 3 a.m. to fetch drinkers.

Should a bar or restaurant have a drunk patron, the drinking establishment can call for a Home Safe driver, Ward said.

Two drivers will be dispatched to the location. If the patron can provide a valid registration and proof of insurance, a Home Safe driver will drive the patron home in their own car at no cost.

Ward hopes that bar owners will contribute to the program to protect themselves from deep pocket law suites.

"In the wake of TGI Fridays' settlement and now Motor City Casino being sued for \$1 million dollars, I feel my Home Safe program will not only provide Westland bars and restaurants, some protection against deep pocket law suites, but save lives," he said.

Threat of lawsuits and police crackdowns on drunks are a factor in driving bars out of business. According to musician Ben E. Jet, several Westland bars have recently closed their doors.

Since Home Safe is a nonprofit organization, Ward said that bar



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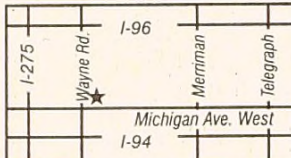
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6pm-??? \$2.50



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2001-Oscar Contest!

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Choose this year's Academy Award Winners and win your own pair of passes for 52 weeks to first run movies at Canton Cinema...

That's right, you can get your fill of movies for free by guessing the correct winners* of the major Academy Award categories. All you have to do is check your favorites in the following six categories and send your entry to Academy Award Predictions, c/o Michigan Community Newspapers, P.O. Box 578, Wayne, MI 48184. If more than one entry predicts the correct winners a random drawing will choose the winner. In addition a second place prize of 52 single passes and a third place prize of 26 passes will be awarded.

Now check your entries, and good luck!

Best Picture

- ☐ Gladiator ☐ Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
☐ Chocolat ☐ Traffic ☐ Erin Brockovich

Best Actor

- ☐ Russell Crowe ☐ Tom Hanks ☐ Javier Bardem
Gladiator Castaway Before Night Falls
☐ Geoffrey Rush ☐ Ed Harris
Quills Pollock

Best Actress

- ☐ Joan Allen ☐ Juliette Binoche ☐ Ellen Burstyn
The Contender Chocolat Requiem For A Dream
☐ Laura Linney ☐ Julia Roberts
You Can Count On Me Erin Brockovich

Best Supporting Actor

- ☐ Jeff Bridges ☐ William Dafoe ☐ Benecio Del Toro
The Contender Shadow Of The Vampire Traffic
☐ Albert Finney ☐ Joaquin Pheonix
Erin Brockovich Gladiator

Best Supporting Actress

- ☐ Marcia Gay Harden ☐ Judi Dench ☐ Kate Hudson
Pollock Chocolat Almost Famous
☐ Frances McDormand ☐ Julie Walters
Almost Famous Billy Elliot

Best Director

- ☐ Steven Soderbergh ☐ Steven Soderbergh ☐ Ridley Scott
for Erin Brockovich for Traffic for Gladiator
☐ Ang Lee ☐ Stephen Daldry
for Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon for Billy Elliot

Best Foreign Language Film (TIE BREAKER)

- ☐ Everybody Famous ☐ Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
of Belgium of Taiwan
☐ Amores Perros ☐ Divided We Fall ☐ A Taste of Others
of Mexico of Czech Republic of France

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

(One entry per person only!)

First Place: 52 pairs of passes

Second Place: 52 single passes

Third Place: 26 single passes

Random drawing held for other pairs of passes!

Entries must be postmarked by Friday, March 23, 2001. Employees and families of Michigan Community Newspapers and The Canton Cinema are not eligible to win. For more information call 734-729-4000.

Opinion

Page A-6

March 1, 2001

M I C H I G A N C O M M U N I T Y N E W S P A P E R S

Survey results indicate most area school districts receive "D's"

Grades are in and every Western Wayne school district fared poorly with the exception of Plymouth-Canton and Livonia. One school district, Wayne-Westland, earned the infamous designation of being in the "worst" ten.

The survey was prepared by the Detroit News, in conjunction with education experts. They graded the performance of all 88 public school districts in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Grosse Ile scored the highest with a 45.75 score; Lincoln Park was the lowest at 11.92.

The Western Wayne scores are going to create a great deal of consternation for educators who are constantly defending their schools. As with our children, C's and D's may be acceptable but when they dip into the "D's", all hell should break loose.

And guess what, readers, every school save Plymouth-Canton (B+), scored "D" or below.

The lowest total in our area went to Wayne-Westland who scored 15.4. That, according to the survey's grading system that is based on a curve, gave the sometimes troubled school district a failing grade of "F".

Wayne Westland scored only two-tenths of a percentage point better last year, but it kept them from failing.

This year the surveyors didn't take kindly to Wayne-Westland posting only 3 out of 23 schools as having North Central Association accreditation. MEAP scores were not all that bad when considering surrounding districts but when the data was added up, Wayne Westland was clearly lacking.

Westwood Schools didn't fare much better, although they managed to score a "D-".

Overall their 18 score was down 1.2 points from last year and MEAP scores including a 19 percentile for seventh graders were atrocious.

Van Buren posted a 19.4 score, a remarkable improvement over last year's incredibly dismal 13.6. Still the 19.4 gave the district a not-too-flattering "D". Like Wayne-Westland, Van Buren scored low on accreditation—only

one school, while MEAP scores were higher than most receiving "D" grades.

Romulus slipped from "C-" to a "D," not good news for a school district that spends more per pupil (\$8150 versus \$6525 for Plymouth-Canton) than most. Their overall grade was 19.5, a slippage of 2.5 points from 1999. MEAP scores appeared to be a major culprit.

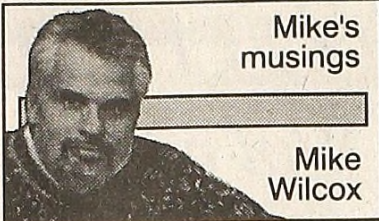
There was good news for Inkster, as their number increased from 16.1 to 18.3, but still only good for a "D-". Drastic improvement failed to come Inkster's way due to an incredibly high dropout rate (34% and a pathetic eighth grade MEAP score of 18.3.

The poor numbers that are generally across the board for each school (remember the exceptions being Plymouth-Canton and Livonia) show that our area needs a major overhaul when it comes to education.

These comparisons are not comparing our students with those from other countries or other states. They are comparing our children with those of our friends and neighbors in school districts that are right next door.

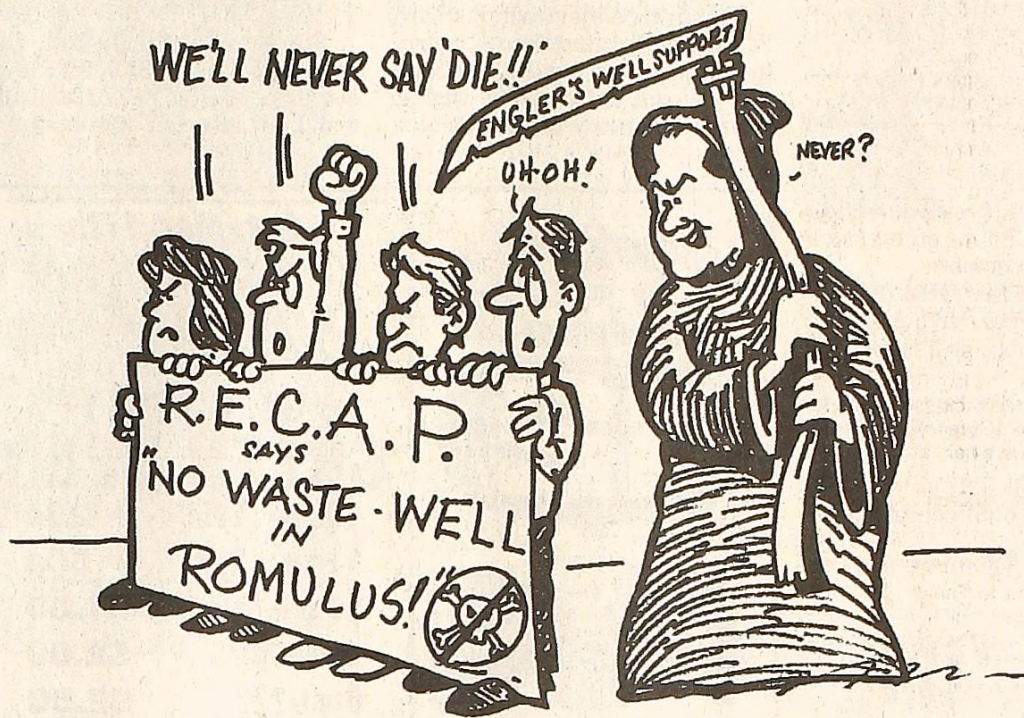
Demographically, Inkster is expected to be near the bottom. Their improvement this year thankfully ends a slide that has threatened the very existence of the school district. Conversely, however, Van Buren should not be at the bottom of the pack. Their score of 13.6 in 1999, is truly deplorable. Certainly 19.4 is a tremendous improvement, but if demographics are a factor, Van Buren should be posting far better numbers.

Ditto Wayne-Westland. Administrators there, need to do a lot of soul searching, because it's embarrassing to compare them in the same categories as the Highland Parks and Pontiacs of the world. I only hope there is some glitch in the survey, and the Wayne-Westland number is wrong.



Mike's musings

Mike Wilcox



Student ambushed by reality

A high school newspaper column offers Plymouth-Canton high school students a "golden opportunity" to have a real discourse about two issues: black history and freedom of speech, according to Jim Salcynski, a Close Up teacher at Canton High School.

The occasion was Chris Mackinder's P-CEP Perspective opinion piece, "Racism comes alive with Black History Month."

Mackinder is a 17-year-old Salem senior.

But Salcynski fears that the administration will squander the opportunity.

"The district is asking the student and the school newspaper advisor to apologize," he said. "I think it would be a great thing if we were able to talk. It's not good to hide ideas."

Golden opportunities for debate is Close Up's reason for being. Close Up is a class where students learn how to grapple with societal and governmental issues.

When I visited the class during discussions about the recent Kosovo war, I was pleased with many students' use of reason and evidence to discuss an emotional issue.

Compared to the one-sided war propaganda presented on network evening news shows, idealistic Close Up students were open-minded and curious to learn about the issue. They listened. They debated. They learned.

Mackinder's piece argues that by separating black history from American history, Black History Month is not color blind.

"If Martin Luther King Jr. wanted a 'color blind' nation, then it's obvious he would not agree with the idea of celebrating a month because of a person's color," Mackinder wrote. "As it is, we are just making race an issue once again by celebrating this month. We are saying that because a person's race is black, we'll have a special month just for them. We are focusing on the color of a person's skin and doing just the



Ivan Helfman

opposite of what affirmative action really stands for."

I doubt whether that would have got Mackinder into too much trouble, but the piece's conclusion was apparently too much for many of the district's black residents, a few of its civil rights activists, and all of its administration to take.

"Race was almost becoming a nonfactor in the world, but

Thanks to rigorous classes like Close Up, Plymouth-Canton students will continue to learn how to think about issues and handle them rationally.

with arguments about Black History Month, it didn't take long for things to begin changing," Mackinder wrote. "It looks like our nation's leaders need a reality check. If it's a race war that they want, keeping things the way they are will sure get them one. By creating a month to make a group of people happy, the battle of which color is supreme will be taken to the extreme."

On the heels of the column's publication, a few hundred students and adults demonstrated at Salem.

The demonstration resulted in a meeting, where Mackinder said: "I'm deeply sorry for all the trouble I've put you through. Looking back on the article, I see how I could have worded things differently."

At the meeting, Superinten-

dent Kathleen Booher said that P-CEP Perspective Advisor Mary Lou Nagy received an undisclosed punishment; and that the district has changed its student newspaper policy to allow a contrary opinion on controversial issues.

But what of the issue? What of rational discussion? What have the students learned?

The answers here aren't as bad as they seem.

Thanks to rigorous classes like Close Up, Plymouth-Canton students will continue to learn how to think about issues and handle them rationally.

Thanks to excellent teachers like Mary Lou Nagy, who I saw in action during the controversy over the high school siting, Plymouth-Canton students are in good hands.

In my opinion, the whole incident will serve as a reality check, though a different one than Mackinder intended.

Not the reality check of a race war. Given the tremendous firepower of the American military, there will be no civil wars of any kind in the foreseeable future.

No, the reality is that students can't depend on bureaucrats — educational, governmental, or corporate — to nourish idealism and encourage independent thinking.

Fortunately, at a good district like Plymouth-Canton, many great teachers encourage students to think and to create in the classroom.

Many Plymouth-Canton students will be able to continue developing their independent minds in college.

But the reality is that students better appreciate their school years. Their minds will never be so alive.

Then comes the reality check: a world run by bureaucrats seeking order, seeking to conform thinking and behavior. By family life and responsibilities. By work.

I only wish that Mackinder could have been spared another four or five years before having to apology. For a student as bright as Mackinder, 17 is too young for a reality check.

Will failing schools blame messenger?

Last Sunday's Detroit News published what it proclaimed as the most comprehensive rating of metro-area schools available. For the most part, school districts in the Michigan Community Newspapers Wayne County readership area did not fare well.

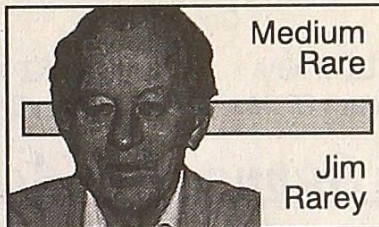
On a scale of A (top schools) to F (failing schools) only the Plymouth-Canton schools received a grade (B+) higher than a D.

The Inkster District received a D- (unchanged from last year). Wayne-Westland slipped from a D-last year to an F this year.

However, the biggest disappointment had to be the Romulus School District, slipping from a C- to a D this year. Romulus is one of 19 districts in the Metro area receiving more than \$8,000 per student in state foundation grants. Of the other 18 there were 8 A's, 6 B's and 4 C's.

Romulus has touted itself, and is generally regarded around the state, as on the cutting edge of teaching and curriculum developments.

It was the first district in the state to computerize its classrooms, thanks to an \$80 million bond issue. It was one of the first districts to adopt the Parent/student/school compacts.



Medium Rare

Jim Rarey

It has one of the highest school tax rates in the area and an acceptable 23.2 pupil teacher ratio. Yet its students scored in the lowest 25 percent on the ACT and MEAP tests. School administrators will have some explaining to do.

Of course all of this assumes that the News' rating system has some validity. That is not a slam-dunk. The News says it used twelve criteria (developed in conjunction with five education experts) assigning point values to each. Total points were then added for each district, which were then converted to a letter grade based on the curve.

However the point values were not entirely based on objective criteria. For instance, school districts were awarded extra points based on the percentage of students living in poverty as evidenced by the number of student receiving free or subsidized meals, a question-

able assumption that all poverty stricken students will score poorly on tests.

The greatest irony is the use of the curve in arriving at letter grades. The history of the curve of normal distribution is a prime example of how educators avoid taking responsibility for students' learning.

The curve was originally developed as a tool for measuring teacher performance. It postulated that, in a normal or average class, student's grades would conform closely to a pattern of 10 percent A's, 20 percent B's, 40 percent C's, 20 percent D's and 10 percent F's.

Administrators were to analyze class-testing results for deviations from those norms as a trigger for further investigation of teacher performance.

Of course, as soon as teachers realized this, they started assigning grades based on those percentages. Thus no trigger for further observation of the teachers.

It will be interesting to hear the explanations of administrators from the various districts. Will they admit shortcomings and plan corrective action, or attack the messenger and its methods?

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Help student ambassador go to Australia

To the editor:

My name is Ronald Abel and I am a 12th grade student from Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne. I was recently interviewed and accepted to participate as a member of the Michigan People to People Student Ambassador Program. I will be one of the students who will be representing the United States of America track team this summer in Sydney, Australia. This 20-day program of exchange consists of meetings with government officials, interaction with other students my age, educational activities and home visits with host families.

In case you haven't heard of People to People, this is a non-profit organization that offers children a one in a lifetime opportunity

to represent their country in their sport. This opportunity will stay with me for the rest of my life, so if I never get the chance to get to the Olympics on my own this will be the closest I will ever get. President Dwight Eisenhower initiated People to People in 1956. He believed that if people from different cultures could come together in peace and friendship, so eventually would countries. Other programs like Sister Cities, Project Hope, and Pen Pals were founded at the same time as People to People and have become independent programs since then.

Student Ambassadors are carefully interviewed and evaluated before their acceptance, and we are expected to share our experiences with schools and civic clubs

when we return. As a Student Ambassador with People to People, I can also earn high school and college credit because of the many educational elements in my program. Personally, I would like to become a Student Ambassador because I have worked very hard to achieve the goals with my running career that I have done already. I have overcome a lot of obstacles, like 2 tumors in my knee, stress fractures, and the anguish of starting over every time I reach one of the obstacles I have overcome.

The tuition for the program is \$4,000, which includes meals, transportation, accommodation, and educational activities.

I am currently seeking financial sponsors to help me with my

goal. I plan to ask 80 contributors to donate \$50.00 to help me with goal. Is it possible for you to assist me by making a contribution? I plan to give a speech and share my journal, photographs and experiences with all of my contributors upon my return.

My program tuition is due by April 1, 2001. Checks may be made payable to People to People and forwarded to me at: 41021 Old Michigan lot 255 Canton, MI 48188. I would greatly appreciate with any generous donation that will enable me to share in this wonderful program.

I thank you in advance for your gracious consideration and support.

Sincerely yours,
Ronald Abel



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- The Canton Eagle
- The Inkster Ledger Star
- The Romulus Roman
- The Wayne Eagle
- The Westland Eagle

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OBITUARIES

ALLISON, CORA 75 of Inkster, born in Hannah, Alabama to William and Alberta Miles, passed away January 27. She leaves behind her husband of 60 years Joe Allison; children Joanne, Linda, Terry, Paul, and Nikita; fifteen grandchildren; nine great-grand children; family and friends. Arrangements were made by Penn Funeral Home with services held at Romulus Community Baptist Church.

BARRETT, WILLIAM E., 80 of Wayne, passed away February 19. Beloved husband of the late Ellen. Dear father of William E. IV. Dearest grandfather of Scott (Pam) and great-grandfather of Jamie. Funeral services were held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Interment followed at Acacia Park Cemetery.

BLACK, RAY T., 70 of Westland, passed away January 18. Loving husband of Marta Black. Beloved father of William (Robin) Black, Christopher (Aimee) Black, and Lisa Black. Dear brother of of Russell Black, Paul Black, Bernice Black, Geraldine Black, Faye Black, Ruby Black, the late Jim Black, the late Claude Black, and the late Wilma Black. Dear grandfather of five and great grandfather of two. Funeral services were held at Uht Funeral Home with Rev. William Lichty officiating. Interment followed at Cadillac Memorial Cemetery.

CANTY, SHERD, 80 of Inkster, born in Pike Co., Alabama to Fannie and Willie Canty, passed away January 26. He was an avid fisherman, hunter, gardner, and played on two senior bowling leagues. He leaves to mourn his wife of 55 devoted years Betty; children Michael, Inette, Stephanie, and Reginald; sisters Rozilla and Lucille; brother Levar; ten grandchildren; five great grandchildren; family and friends. Arrangements made by Penn Funeral Home with services held at Annapolis Park Church of Christ.

De PLANCHE, MARTHA A., 75 of Canton, passed away February 11. Loving wife of Jack De Planche. Funeral services

were held at Uht Funeral Home with Rev. Robert Sielaff officiating. Interment followed at Southern Michigan Services, Livonia.

DENSTEDT, JO ANN, 63 of Romulus, passed away February 18. Dear mother of Jimmy Stevens of Canton, Maurice (Deana) Stevens of Ferndale, Marie (James) McGeachy of New Boston, and Eddie (Denise) Stevens of Port Richey, Florida. Dear sister of John (Raynell) Catoe of GA, Robert (Lucy) Catoe of NC, Doris Chavis of SC, Mae Payne of SC, Elizabeth Catoe of SC, Lucille (W.L.) Humphreys of SC, Kathy Johnson of SC, and Martha (Ted) Holton of Romulus. Loving grandmother of thirteen and great-grandmother of two. She is preceded in death by husband Ralph and parents R.S. and Mary Annie Jane (Dees) Catoe. Funeral services were held at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville with Pastor Marvin Hawbaker officiating. Interment followed at Tyler Cemetery, Belleville. Memorial contributions can be made in her honor to Calvary Baptist Church, where she was a member.

GLOVER-HENDERSON, CAROLE, 48 born in Ypsilanti, Michigan the third of four children to Jeff and Byrda Glover, passed away January 28. She returned to college in 1993 to receive a Bachelors Degree in Human Resources and was currently working on a degree in Early Child Development. Arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home with services held at Romulus Community Baptist Church, interment followed at Romulus Cemetery.

INNES, CHERYL L., 34 of Belleville passed away February 23. Beloved wife of Brian A. Innes. Dear mother of Jessica and Justin Innes. Dear daughter of Robert and Sally (Storms) Cyphers of Belleville. Dear daughter-in-law of Mary K. Innes of Phoenix, AZ. Dearest sister of Christine (Roger) Parmelee of Ypsilanti; Craig (Anita) Cyphers of Texas, and Margie (Steve) Bogle of Belleville. Dear sister-in-

law of Paul (Sandy) Innes of Belleville; Hal (Kathy) innes of Belleville, Mark (Sharon) Innes of Belleville; Kay Innes of Phoenix, AZ; Sandy Innes of Tucson, AZ; and JoAnn (Jay) Smart of Chicago, IL. Dear Aunt of Rachel & Amanda Parmalee, Jason & Christopher Cyphers, and Megan & Sarah Bogle. Preceded in death by father-in-law Harold Innes. Cheryl was a paraprofessional for Elwell School where she truly enjoyed her work with children. She was a devoted advocate for her son who suffers with food allergies. Cheryl was instrumental in initiating the "Anti-Peanut Butter" program at the school. She loved collecting antiques, enjoyed snowmobiling, camping, and the outdoors. Funeral services were held at David C. Brown Funeral Home with pastor Robert J. White officiating. interment followed at Soop Cemetery, Belleville. Memorial contributions can be made in her name to an Educational Fund for Cheryl's children by the Innes and Cypher families.

JONES, EUGENE H., 72 of Romulus passed away January 28. Loving husband of Betty Jones. Beloved father of Leslie (Adrien) Jones of Commerce Twsp. and Cathy L. Burgess of Romulus. Dear brother of Arneata (Roy) Cantrell of Seymour, MO. Mr. Jones was a retired Master Sergeant from the United States Army. Funeral services were held at Crane

Funeral Home. Cremation rites were accorded.

MARTIN, DUWAYNE, 68 of Romulus, passed away February 21. Loving husband of Elizabeth (Betty). Dear father of Gary D. of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Kevin D. of Belleville. Beloved grandfather of Nia. Preceded in death by his brother William Williams, Jr. He was a graduate of Romulus High School. He was with the State of MI. Dept. of Mental Health for 37 yrs., was the Dir. of Rec. Dept. for the City of Romulus for 4 yrs., was on the Romulus Planning Commission, Board of Review, and the Mayor's Drug task Force (as chairman), he was the vice chairman for the Romulus Historical Commission, a troop leader/organizer for Boy Scouts for the MI Dept. Of Mental Health, Moderator for the Mayor's Chair talk show, and Richard Marsh's Mentor/Special Advisor for the Mayor's chair. Funeral arrangements were made through Crane Funeral Home with services at First Baptist Church, Romulus. Rev. Charles P. Woolridge of First Baptist Church officiated. Interment followed at Romulus Cemetery.

MASON, OPHELIA, 73 of Inkster, born in Eldorado, Arkansas to Jessie and Julie Smith, passed away January 23. She leaves to mourn her passing her husband of 37 years Herman; children Lawrence,

Johnny, and Joan Esther; granddaughter Erica; great-grandson Andrew; family and friends. Arrangements made by Penn Funeral Home with services held at People's Community Baptist Church.

SCHWEIN, CLARA MAE, passed away February 22. She resided in Metro Detroit for 70 years, Traverse City and Manistee, MI for 14 years and Waynesboro, VA. for the last six moths. Beloved wife of the late Frank E. Sr. Dear mother of Frank E. Jr. (Marty), David L., Karen L. Diehl, Rick L. (Nancy), and Jill Stenberg (Michael). Also survived by 19 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren with one great-grandchild on the way. Funeral arrangements were made through Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Funeral services were held at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Interment followed at Mt. Olivette Cemetery.

SHANKS, IRENE, 80 of New Boston (formerly of Belleville for 46 years) passed away February 23. Beloved wife of Claude Shanks, whom she married 49 years ago on Valentine's Day. Dear mother of Diane (Brad) Traskos of Belleville and Phillip (Debra) Shanks of New Boston. Dear sister of Helen Feital of Belleville. Dearest grandmother of Katelyn, Bradley, & Andrea Traskos; and also Nicholas, Lindsay, & Maxwell Shanks. Preceded in death by parents Zygmont and Catherine (Szymanski) Gerczakowski, two sisters, and three brothers. She loved her grand-

children and they brought her much joy. She grew up on a farm and loved country living. Funeral mass was held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, where she was a member, with Father Thomas H. Cusick as celebrant. Interment followed at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock. Memorial contributions in the form of masses would be appreciated by the Shanks Family. Funeral arrangements were made through David C. Brown Funeral Home.

STREET, MICHAEL, 29 of Inkster, born in Wayne, Michigan to Edward and Dorothy Street, passed away January 22. he leaves behind his parents James & Dorothy; daughters Marisa, Michelle and Mya; four brothers; fiancée Akeela Ferguson; family and friends. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home with Interment at Knollwood Memorial Park.

THOMPSON, DORNETTA, 61 of Inkster, born in Shreveport, Louisiana, the oldest of four children to Eddie and Arnette Sutton, passed away January 27. She loved to sew, crochet, knit, garden, and work anywhere needed in the church. She leaves behind her husband of 35 years Luther; son Baron; daughters Terriol and Ann; step-daughter Joann Knox; one sister; two brothers; sixteen grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; family and friends. Arrangements made by Penn Funeral Home with services held at Beverly House of God.

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2001 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48714.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Randolph Gear, Mayor Pro Tem

Present: LeRoy D. Burcroff, William A. Crova, Randolph Gear, Donald Morris, Michael A. Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth
Absent: None.
Excused: None.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:
William Oakley, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, Clerk
Pamela Kersey, Treasurer

1. Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to accept the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-039

2A. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 5, 2001.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla. Abstain: Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried.

01-040

3A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to grant tentative preliminary plat approval to Elro Corporation for development of The Commons Subdivision No. 2. The development is immediately south of the Commons Subdivision No. 1. on the south side of Ecorse Road between Hannan and Cogswell Road. Tentative approval confers upon the proprietor for a period of one year.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-041

4A. Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Anthony Greca.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-042

4B. Motion by Wadsworth supported by Prybyla to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Elaine Washington.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Morris to accept the Chairperson's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-043

5A. Motion by Romak, supported by Morris to enter into an agreement for Municipal Street Lighting with Detroit Edison to furnish, install, operate and maintain street lighting equipment at the intersection of Wayne and Ronald Roads.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-044

5B. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to enter into an agreement for Municipal Street Lighting with Detroit Edison to furnish, install, operate and maintain street lighting equipment at the intersection of Huron River Drive and Barth Road.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-045

5C. Motion by Morris, supported by Wadsworth to enter into a Traffic Signal Agreement with the County of Wayne for installation and maintenance of a temporary traffic signal at the intersection of Eureka, Wayne and Wahrman Roads, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute same.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously

01-046

5D. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to enter into a Storm Sewer Agreement with Terrill Nichols, owner and legal agent for the Wheat and Rye Restaurant, to officially take jurisdiction and control for maintenance and repair of approximately thirty (30) feet of storm sewer within the Merriman Road right of way at 7000 Merriman Road.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-047

5E. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to adopt a resolution determining the necessity for street lighting improvements in The Highlands of Romulus, The Commons Subdivision (Phase 2) and The Creekside Subdivision and to authorize the City Assessor to prepare an assessment roll of all lots and parcels of real property of the total area affected with a detailed estimate of all expenses incidental to the improvement. Further, to schedule a Public Hearing to be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 on Monday, March 5, 2001 at 7:15 p.m. for the purpose of hearing any objections to the proposed improvements for aforementioned subdivisions.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-048

5F. Motion by Crova, supported by Morris to adopt a resolution determining the necessity for street lighting improvements in The Greens at Gateway Subdivision and to authorize the City Assessor to prepare an assessment roll of all lots and parcels of real property of the total area affected with a detailed estimate of all expenses incidental to the improvement. Further, to schedule a Public Hearing to be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 on Monday, March 5, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of hearing any objections to the proposed improvements for aforementioned subdivisions.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-049

5G. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Prybyla to adopt a Resolution Approving Notice of Intent to authorize the issuance of special assessment bonds for the purpose of defraying part of a special assessment district's share of the cost in connection with certain public road improvement for Beverly Road and general obligation bonds to pay the City's cost in connection with said improvements.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Morris, Prybyla. Nays - Gear, Romak, Wadsworth.
Motion Carried.

01-050

5H. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Prybyla to award Bid 00/01-09 to Michigan CAT in the amount of \$111,348.00 for the purchase of one (1) Wheel Loader.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-051

5I. Motion by Morris, supported by Burcroff to award Bid 00/01-22 to Martin Police Equipment on a per unit basis, not to exceed the bid amount of \$8,015.00 for the completion of two (2) Canine Unit Changeovers and Five (5) Cruiser Changeovers.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-052

5J. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to award Bid 00/01-33 to Bill Wink Chevrolet in the amount of \$28,748.00 for the purchase of One (1) Ton Dump Truck.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-053

5K. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to award Bid 00/01-34 to Kenco Corporation in the amount of \$2,250.00 for the purchase of a Pipe Lifting/Lowering Device.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-054

6A1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to approve the second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendment 00/01-5 introduced at the meeting of February 5, 2001.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

01-055

11. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Romak to authorize payment of Warrant 01-03 in the grand total amount of One Million, Eighty Four Thousand, Seven Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars and Seventy Nine Cents (\$1,084,733.79).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Romak to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Morris, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 13, 2001.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: March 8, 2001

Wayne ousts Romulus; Canton, Robichaud fall

Johnson, Brinston lead Zebras to semis where Glenn awaits

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

The words - the quote - was apparently a prophesy of what was to come.

"You can never rest when you play a Wayne with Gary Johnson on the team," said Romulus Coach Guy DelGiudice Sunday evening, about 24 hours before his Eagles clashed with Wayne.

The meeting between the two local teams occurred in the first-round of the Class A district playoffs.

Johnson teamed up with Earl Brinston to end the defending district champ's season, 57-49, in a

game that was closer than the final score indicates.

Johnson, picked to the All-Mega Red Team last week, showed why he is one of the premier players in the conference and the area. The 6-2 forward, double-teamed most of the evening, pumped in 16 points, while Brinston drilled a game high 18, to lead the Eagles into the semifinals.

Wayne was scheduled to play natural rival, Westland John Glenn, Wednesday night and the winner of the semis catches Garden City or Belleville in the finals.

Garden City, led by 6-10 center Justin Ockerman, and Colin Size-

more, ended Livonia Franklin and senior guard Joe Ruggerio's season, 51-48. Ruggerio did not go out without a fight. The Livonia Franklin star scored a game high 21 points.

Belleville, as did Glenn, drew a first-round bye at Romulus, and coach Rod Fisher's Tigers are expected to be able to offset Garden City's size with their speed and their perimeter shooting.

Despite the sleet and snow, hoop fans packed the Romulus gym for the rematch between Romulus and Wayne. The two teams split early in the season. The loss left Romulus with a 13-8 record; Wayne went into the semis boast-

ing a 11-10 record.

Against Wayne, Romulus also had two players in double figures. Daniel Jarrett and Charles Searcy both scored 12 points.

In the meantime, the anticipated rematch between arch-rivals Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth-Salem will not materialize as coach Jeremy Rheault and the Chiefs flunked their initial district test.

Canton was ousted by host Northville, 56-46, as the Chiefs wasted an excellent all-around performance by senior Jerry Gaines. Gaines scored a team high 17 points, but the Colts had balanced scoring on their side

and countered with Dave Gregor's 22 points. Gregor also was aggressive on the boards as he grabbed a game high 11 rebounds.

Northville advanced Wednesday to the semis where they took on Plymouth-Salem, a team the Colts had beaten during the Western Lakes Conference campaign.

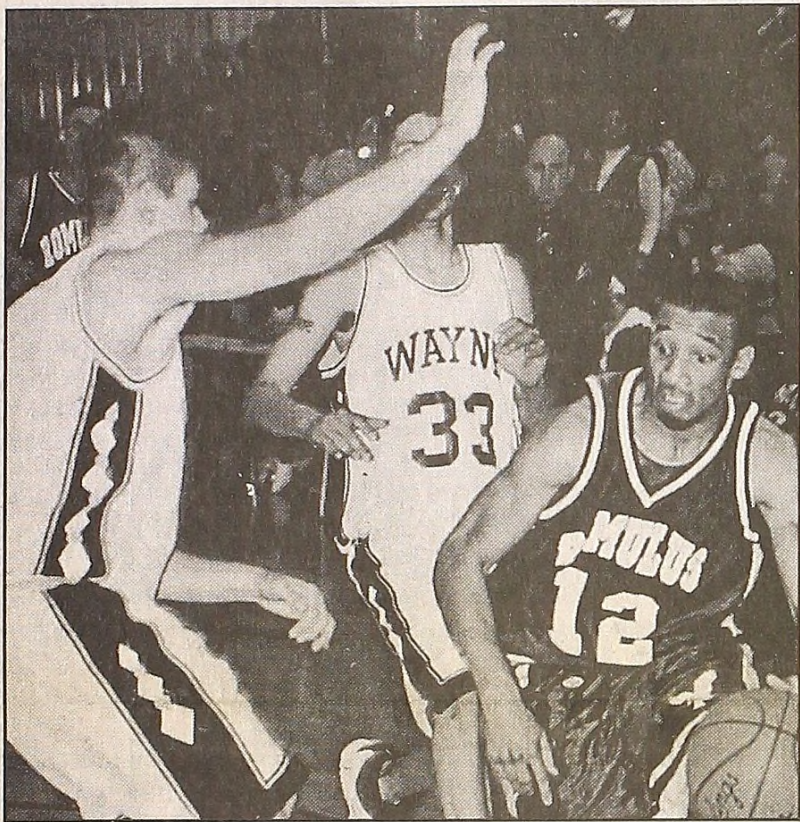
The winner of the Northville-Salem semis will meet either Detroit Henry Ford, which eliminated Livonia Churchill, 81-62, in the opening round of play at Northville, or Novi, which drew a first-round bye.

The championship at Northville is to be decided beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday.

As it has been for them all season long, the Robichaud Bulldogs lost a heartbreaking, season-ending, 46-45, decision to Gibraltar Carlson in the first round of the Class B playoffs.

Carlson's Steve Konopka's at-the-buzzer basket doomed Robichaud and brought down the curtains to a 4-17 Robichaud season. Konopka finished with 10 points, while teammate Joe Mason had the game's high of 14 points.

Robichaud's Jihad Abdullah was the only Bulldog in double figures. He tossed in 10 points.



Wayne's Earl Brinston(33) and Adam Zimmerman have Romulus's senior guard Chris Talley (12) bottled up. Talley and the Eagles had problems breaking out of the bottle and were eliminated in the first round of the district playoffs. Wayne advanced to the semis where coach Wayne Woodard and the Zebras faced Glenn. The championship at Romulus will be decided on Friday. Photo by Carl Brown.

Romulus rebounds to beat Truman, edges Dearborn

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

After a disappointing loss to Highland Park in the opening round of the Mega Red-White basketball playoffs, Romulus regrouped and took its wrath out on Taylor Truman, 74-52.

The Eagles earlier had won a thrilling 68-66 victory over a highly-touted Dearborn ball club.

Romulus Coach Guy DelGiudice and the Eagles head into the

district playoffs with a 13-7 overall record. They will host a Class A District that also brings together teams from neighboring Belleville, Wayne Memorial, Westland John Glenn, Garden City and Livonia Franklin.

While Belleville and Glenn drew first-round byes, Romulus, as host, was scheduled to play Wayne Memorial in the second game of a twin bill on Monday. In the district opener, Garden City

See **EAGLES**, page A-9

Inkster wastes Martin's 34 points Monroe wins playoff shootout, 90-72

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

When the shootout between Inkster and Monroe ended Thursday night, Inkster had only six men standing, and Monroe had won a clear-cut 90-72 Mega Red-White playoff basketball game.

The loss ended a frustrating season for the Vikings' first-year coach Steve Brooks.

"We couldn't get into the gym during the winter break to practice because they told us they were cleaning or making repairs," said Brooks, after the team's 14th loss in 20 starts. "It is frustrating

when you have such a dedicated bunch of players who are willing to sacrifice everything to play."

Brooks pointed out his varsity squad had dwindled to six players.

Inkster is not eligible to compete in post-season district playoffs because of Michigan High

School Athletic Association sanctions against the school.

MHSAA has suspended the school from post-season competition because the school allegedly used ineligible players a year ago and violated other MHSAA rules.

See **VIKINGS**, page A-9

Consolation Salem whips Walled Lake Western, 63-54 . . .

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Plymouth-Salem capped the regular season and entered last night's semi-final round of the Class A district playoffs at Northville with an impressive 63-54 victory over Walled Lake Western.

The victory for Coach Bob

Brodie's Rocks over Western came in the consolation round of the Western Lakes Conference playoffs.

"It was good to win the final one before the playoffs," Brodie noted. "It shoves us into the district's with a bit of confidence."

In all, however, it has been a strange season for the veteran

Salem basketball coach. The Rocks started the year atypically, dropping their first seven games. Then they turned right around and won eight of their next games and settled for a 9-11 overall year.

"We didn't expect to lose our first seven," Brodie says. "That was definitely a disappointment. But these kids refused to quit and

they came right back. I feel we're ready for the playoffs."

Salem drew a first-round bye at Northville and will play the winner of the first-round game between Plymouth-Canton and the host, Northville. The semifinals were scheduled for last night

See **ROCKS**, page A-9

...but Canton falls in OT to Farmington in playoffs

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

They didn't make many turnovers - 11 to be exact - but the mistakes at the end proved fatal for Coach Jeremy Rheault and the Plymouth-Canton Chiefs.

For the first two periods, Canton played a meticulous game against Farmington in a playoff consolation game as the Chiefs jumped out to leads of 15-12 and 30-21 before the intermission.

But Farmington came back and cut the lead to 37-36 for three, then tied it at 48 each after Farmington's Mike Griffin sank his first of

two free throws with seconds left in regulation.

In the OT, Farmington outscored Canton 8-5 to salt away the Western Lakes Conference playoff victory.

"They didn't get a single rebound off the offensive boards in the first half," Rheault recalled. "We definitely had our opportunities to win this one, but the turnovers at the end were very costly."

"We only had 11 (turnovers), and that isn't bad. But when we made one, they capitalized on it."

It was a tough game for Canton

to lose; an excellent one for Farmington to win.

The playoffs are the next challenge for both teams.

Canton had to contend with host Northville Monday night in the first round of the Class A District playoffs. The winner was to engage Salem Wednesday night, and the survivor of that duel will play Friday night for the district championship.

Farmington had two players hit in double figures. Matt Mickle scored a game high 17 points; Chris Tillman added 16 for the winners who took advantage of 18

of their 31 free throws.

Canton received 11 points from Brian Barker and 12 from Andrew Holmes. The Chiefs shot 17 free throws and made 11 of them.

Canton also received an exceptional game from senior Jerry Gaines, who grabbed seven rebounds to go along with his nine points.

In his inaugural season at Canton as head coach Rheault guided the Chiefs to a 9-11 overall season. The highlight of Canton's 2000-2001 campaign was a stunning vic-

See **CHIEFS**, page A-9

Brandi Reed runner-up at state finals

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Brandi Reed, a senior at Plymouth-Salem High School and representing PCEP's Figure Skating team, was runner-up in Senior Freestyle, at the Michigan High School Figure Skating Championships staged Saturday in Birmingham.

Senior Freestyle is the highest level a freestyle skater can achieve, and is the level Michelle Kwan and other nationally-ranked skaters compete.

Brandi also is a member of PCEP's STS video productions staff at the high school and carries a 3.9 cumulative grade point average. She will attend the University of Michigan next fall, where she will be a member of the Wolverines' figure skating team.



With a couple of Romulus defenders trailing him, Wayne's T. J. McClain breaks to the hoop. McClain helped the Zebras upset coach Guy DelGiudice's Eagles in the opening round of the Class A district playoffs. In spite of the sleet and snow, fans flocked to the Eagles' nest to see the rematch between the two Mega-Red hoop powers. Photo by Carl M. Brown

Glenn can't stop Ruggerio, but wins

Before the home crowd, John Glenn seniors went out in style.

Coach Joel Lloyd's Rockets knocked off Livonia Franklin, 55-42, despite a one-man show by Franklin's star, Joe Ruggerio.

The unstoppable Ruggerio pumped in a game high 29 points in his final Western Lakes Conference basketball appearance.

In a tribute to the Franklin star, Lloyd said that he didn't think there was a finer all-around player than Ruggerio on the prep scene this year.

Glenn's defense held the Patriots to single-digit scoring the first three periods. The Westlanders were up 13-6 after the opening period and then widened the gap to

26-15 for two periods, before outscoring their visitors, 13-6, in the third period.

Glenn led 39-21 as the fourth quarter began.

The 18-point spread allowed Coach Lloyd to empty the bench in the Western Lakes Conference round-robin tournament.

Two Glenn seniors finished in double figures. Brent Bogle, a 6-1 forward, tossed in 12 points, a feat duplicated by Mike Goree who culminated his conference season with a thundering dunk with 54 second left in the game.

In a game they controlled from start to finish, the Rockets also

See **ROCKETS**, page A-9



District Champs

Westland skates off with hockey title

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

With the district championship stashed away in their trophy display case, the Westland Midget BB hockey team will travel to St. Clair Shores this weekend to compete in the state finals.

Coach Robb Jacobs's club came up with a thrilling 3-1 victory over the Detroit Dragons on the home ice to clinch the district title and qualify for state.

The Westlanders clipped the Dragons' wings thanks to goals supplied by Brian Yelick, Eric Bauman and Andy Chester.

Bauman was declared the

MVP of the district tourney after turning in with a superb all-around performance.

"This championship couldn't have been possible without the hard work, effort and heart displayed by the team and the parents," said Jacobs after the exciting title game.

The Westlanders wound up the regular season with an enviable 14-0-2 overall record. They also captured the Little Caesar's No. 3 championship and picked up the coveted Sports Week-end's Extravaganza Tournament Title.

Jacobs had set pre-season goals for the team: First, they

had to take districts and second to win the state championship.

The district championship team lineup included Edward Smith (No.2), Keith McLaughlin (6), Greg Hidingier (8), Andy Chester (10), Matthew Creswell (13), Brian Yelick (15), Ron McBride (17), Brandon Cox (24), Brandon Gunn (35), Gary Stevens (4), Keith Vanhaaren (7), James Downs (9), Kevin Kardel (11), Roberto Pinto (14), Eric Bauman (16), Steven Hislop (18) and Justin Snider (34).

The team is coached by Robb Jacobs (head coach). Jacobs's assistant coaches are Duane Gunn and Jim Downs.

Eagles

continued from page A-8

clashed with Livonia Franklin. Belleville was to play the winner of the Garden City - Franklin game, while Glenn gets the Romulus-Wayne winner. The semis were staged yesterday (Wednesday).

The championship will be decided at 7 p.m. on Friday at Romulus.

In the consolation round of the Mega Red-White playoffs, Romulus outscored Truman 24-10 in the third period to break open what was up to then a close game. The Eagles led 17-11 after the first period and held the six-point, 32-26, lead right to the intermission.

With Deon Solomon and Michael Christopher each dumping in five points, Romulus over-

powered Truman in the third and marched into the final period with a 56-36 advantage. There was no speculation about the outcome of the game only who would be the top scorer.

That honor went to Romulus' Chris Talley who finished with 21 points. Solomon's contribution was 16 points, while Daniel Jarrett added 15 and Ron Buckley finished with 8.

It was a different story, however, against the Pioneers of Dearborn who took DelGiudice's Eagles down to the wire before losing by two. There was never more than a five-point spread between the two Mega Conference opponents.

Romulus held 13-12 and 30-29 advantages after the first two quarters and stayed in front, 46-41,

after three quarters.

In a nail-biting fourth period, Solomon's acuity for making free throws eventually paid off. He canned six of seven freebies down the stretch and made seven of eight for the game.

Romulus was up by five with seven seconds left when Golem sank a three-pointer to cut it to two. He finished with 20 points.

"This one went down to the last four or five possessions - that's how close it was," DelGiudice said.

Talley again led the Eagles. He had 19. Ethan Wilkerson, the Pioneers' second scoring ace, was held to four points.

The Eagles also had two other players in double figures. Christopher accounted for 16 points and Jarrett added 12.

Chiefs

continued from page A-8

tory over then undefeated Walled

Lake Central earlier in the season.

Central is the undisputed Western Lake Conference and playoff champion.

"We have had some great games this year and we have made a lot of progress," Rheault said. "Let's see what we can do to extend this season."

Rockets

continued from page A-8

canned 12 of 22 free throws.

However, the Westlanders finished the 2000-2001 campaign with a dismal 5-15 record.

Coach Lloyd and the Rockets

drew a bye in the first round of the Class A district playoffs at Romulus High. The Rockets were to play the winner of the Wayne vs. Romulus game Wednesday night.

The district championship will be decided at 8 p.m. Friday.

In the other bracket at Romulus, an outstanding Garden City took on Livonia Franklin and Joe Ruggerio Monday night. The winner had to beat Belleville Wednesday in order to qualify for Friday's finals.

Belleville also drew a bye.

Rocks

continued from page A-8

(Wednesday).

The district championship at Northville will be decided Friday night, beginning at 7 p.m. In the other bracket, Livonia Churchill squared off with Detroit Henry Ford. The winner was to play Novi in the semis Wednesday night.

With Nick Tockman and Dave Hoskins paving the way, Salem

built an 18-13 first period lead over Walled Lake, then increased its advantage to 33-20 at halftime. Western edged Salem in the second half 34-30.

Ten players scored for the Rocks. Tochman's 16 topped the Rocks. Teammate Dave Hoskins added 10. Western's best - and the game's best - came from Bryan

Berdun who scored 18 points.

Walled Lake Central crushed Northville 61-30 to add the conference playoff championship to their string of achievements this season. Central, with a 19-1 record (their only loss was to Canton) is ranked in the top 10 going into the Class A districts this week.

CITY OF ROMULUS

REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS FOR

BID 00/01-42

2001 JULY 4th FIREWORKS DISPLAY

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified pyrotechnic display companies to provide and execute the 2001 JULY 4th FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

Sealed bids for the above bid will be received in the Office of the City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan until 2:00 p.m., March 27, 2001. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

- Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Kristian H. Moe, Purchasing/Computer Services Director, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI or by calling (734) 942-7564.
- Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office and addressed:

City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan
BID 00/01-42
2001 JULY 4th FIREWORKS DISPLAY
11111 Wayne Road
Romulus, MI 48174

Publish: March 8, 2001

Charter Township of Van Buren

Community Development Block Grant Use of Funds

On February 20, 2001, at the 7:30 p.m. the Charter Township of Van Buren, within the guidelines of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, proposed the following program on the use of the Township's 2001-2002 Community Development Block Grant Funds. The nature of the program is to give priority to assisting those activities which further the national objectives: 1) benefit low and moderate income people, 2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slum or blight, or 3) meet other urgent community development needs. The meeting took place at Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road. The following projects were approved:

ADA Architectural Barrier Removal	\$8,500.00
Administration	\$14,000.00
Neighborhood Improvements	\$36,500.00
Planning	\$12,500.00
Public Services - Fire Equipment	\$30,500.00
Slum and Blight Removal	\$20,000.00
Senior Services	\$20,000.00
Total Funding Level	\$142,000.00

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren

Publish: March 4, 2001
March 8, 2000

PUBLIC NOTICE

RECEIPT OF AN OPERATING LICENSE

APPLICATION FOR A HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

MID 985 568 021

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 5, hereby give notice that Chemical Analytics Incorporated (CAI) submitted an operating license application on January 30, 2001. CAI obtained interim status in January of 1998 pursuant to the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, and Michigan Act 451 for their hazardous wastes management activities and has been operating under interim status since that time.

CAI operates a hazardous waste storage and treatment facility located at 29959 Beverly Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174. CAI receives hazardous wastes from off-site facilities. These wastes are treated, stored, and then shipped off site for final disposal. William Spirka is the contact person for CAI. His phone number is (734) 326-9400.

The MDEQ and U.S. EPA staff are reviewing the application to determine if it is complete and technically satisfies all state and federal hazardous waste facility licensing requirements. If the application is found to be incomplete, the missing information will be requested from the applicant. As soon as the missing information is provided, the MDEQ will proceed with the technical review of the application. Based upon this review, the MDEQ and U.S. EPA will propose to issue or deny the operating license. Prior to a final determination, a public hearing will be held regarding the tentative decision.

A notice will appear in this publication approximately 30 days prior to a public hearing date. At this time, the MDEQ and U.S. EPA are soliciting public comments on the adequacy of the application and any issues associated with the facility's past operation. Comments should be sent to the address printed below.

CAI's renewal application is available for inspection at the MDEQ, Waste Management Division Office located on the first floor of the John A. Hannah Building in Lansing, Michigan (contact Mr. Kevin Holdwick at 517-241-2108); at the MDEQ, Southeast Michigan District Office located at 38980 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan (contact Mr. Mark Daniels at 734-953-1477); at the Romulus Library located at 11121 S Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan and at the U.S. EPA Region 5 Office, Waste Management Branch, located at 77 West Jackson Boulevard in Chicago, Illinois (contact Mr. Nabil Fayoumi at 312-886-6840).

To receive future departmental notifications concerning this facility, please submit a written request for placement on the CAI mailing list to the address below. Questions regarding the facility should be addressed to:

Mr. Kevin Holdwick
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Waste Management Division
P.O. Box 30241
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-241-2108

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This Weeks Special

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--	---	--	--

LAW AUTO SALES 32115 MICHIGAN AVE. WAYNE, MI (734) 722-5200

CITY OF ROMULUS

NOTICE

2001 BOARD REVIEW

To the taxpayers of the City of Romulus: The Board of Review will meet in the Romulus City Hall, Community Room, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on the following dates and times by APPOINTMENT ONLY for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll.

Meeting dates are as follows:

March 12, 13, 14, 2001:	Residential
March 15, 2001:	9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm 2:00pm-4:00pm & 5:00pm-9:00pm
March 16, 2001:	Commercial/Industrial
	9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Review is by appointment only

Residents and Non-Residents of the City seeking a review of their assessment may appeal "IN PERSON" at these meetings or appeal by letter. The Board of Review MUST receive all letter appeals no later than March 16, 2001.

Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. All Representative of Agents MUST submit proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.

If you desire an appointment, please call the Romulus Department of Assessment at (734) 942-7520.

Publish: February 22, 2001
March 1, 2001
March 8, 2001

CITY OF ROMULUS

REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS

BID 00/01-43

16" SAW AND CUTTING CART

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above item.

- Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Kristian Moe, Purchasing/Computer Services Director, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI or by calling (734) 942-7564.
- Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00 p.m., March 27, 2001. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE MARKED:

CITY CLERK
CITY OF ROMULUS, MICHIGAN

BID 00/01-43
16" SAW AND CUTTING CART

11111 WAYNE ROAD
ROMULUS, MI 48174-1472

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: March 8, 2001

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2001 TAURUS SE

Stk. #12397

94 Tauruses Available

0.9% APR Financing Available

4 DOOR SE

Vibrant white clearcoat, medium graphite cloth bucket, 3.0L 2V 6 cyl. engine, auto overdrive transmission, front and rear floor mats, 5 passenger seating w/storage console, power driver seat, 60/40 split/fold rear seat, adjustable pedals.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$20,370 NOW **\$16,416^{00*}**

A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$246^{34**}	\$201^{10**}

2001 RANGER XLT

Stk. #16960

245 Rangers Available

0.9% APR Financing Available

REGULAR CAB 4x2 AUTOMATIC

Toreador red, dark graphite cloth interior, AM/FM Stereo/Clock/CD, chrome wheels, automatic overdrive transmission, air conditioning.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$16,690 NOW **\$11,469^{65**}**

A-PLAN 24 MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1300 DOWN
	\$178^{75**}	\$120^{62**}

2001 RANGER S.C.

Stk. #12505

245 Rangers Available

1.9% APR Financing Available

SUPER CAB 4x2 XLT

Oxford white clearcoat, dark graphite cloth interior, AM/FM stereo/clock/dual ME, chrome 7-spoke 15" wheels, 4.0L SOHC V6 engine, power windows, power locks, remote keyless entry, air conditioning.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$21,635 NOW **\$16,356^{35**}**

A-PLAN 24 MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$203^{97**}	\$139^{82**}

2001 WINDSTAR LX

Stk. #11783

173 Windstars Available

0.9% APR Financing Available

LX WAGON

Silver frost clearcoat metallic, medium graphite cloth interior, 3.8L OHV EFI engine, 4-speed automatic overdrive transmission, aux. climate control, luggage rack, 2nd/3rd row privacy glass, AM/FM stereo/disc/cass/clock, 15" aluminum wheels.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$27,045 NOW **\$21,487^{85*}**

A-PLAN 36 MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$298^{59**}	\$256^{31**}

2001 EXPLORER SPORT

Stk. #12510

261 Explorers Available

0.9% APR Financing Available

2 DOOR SPORT 4x2

Oxford white clearcoat, dark graphite cloth sport bucket seats, 4.0L SOHC V6 engine, 5-speed automatic overdrive transmission, step bar, front tow hooks, fog lamps, autolock/relock, remote keyless entry w/keypad, AM/FM stereo cass. w/single cd.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$25,205 NOW **\$20,318^{80*}**

A-PLAN 24 Month LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$262^{82**}	\$199^{97**}

2001 F-150 SUPERCAB

Stk. #12627

254 F-Series Available

2.9% APR Financing Available

SUPER CAB 4x4

Dark Highland Green, parchment 40/60 split bench, overhead console, AM/FM stereo/clock/single CD, air conditioning, 5.4L EFI V8 automatic overdrive, electronic shift, sliding rear window, skid plates, 17" cast aluminum wheels.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$31,830 NOW **\$23,843^{35**}**

A-PLAN 24MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$338^{54**}	\$273^{16**}

2001 EXPEDITION XLT

Stk. #11431

43 Expeditions Available

0.9% APR Financing Available

XLT 4x4

Oxford white clearcoat, dark graphite cloth, privacy glass, electronic 4-speed auto transmission, black power/heated mirrors, air conditioning, trailer towing package, AM/FM stereo/cassette, skid plate package, fog lamps, 17" 10-spoke aluminum wheels.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$38,135 NOW **\$29,940^{45*}**

A-PLAN 24 MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$460^{68**}	\$395^{92**}

2001 EXCURSION

Stk. #10567

24 Excursions Available

LIMITED 4x2

Dark green, clearcoat metallic, medium parchment leather, trip computer, illuminated running boards, aux. heater/air conditioning, third row seat, rear radio controls, power driver's seat, electronic 4-speed automatic transmission, AM/FM stereo w/in-dash 6 CD player.

Ford Employee or eligible family member

WAS \$39,250 NOW **\$30,933^{05*}**

A-PLAN 24 MO. LEASE RENEWAL	ZERO DOWN	\$1500 DOWN
	\$441^{38**}	\$375^{54**}

MARCH MADNESS SALE

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Stk #10048
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\$219/mo.**

'99 Cougar
Stk #113504
\$11,995*
\$218/mo.**

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Stk #109955
\$23,888*
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'96 Ranger
Stk #121804
\$6,995*
\$129/mo.**

'98 Villager Wgn.
Stk #110774
\$11,999*
\$215/mo.**

'98 Mystique
Stk #111704
\$9,398*
\$171/mo.**

'98 F-150 Supercab
Stk #120574
\$18,888*
\$305/mo.**

'99 Windstar
Stk #10248
\$15,388*
\$314/mo.**

2000 Windstar
Stk #10710
\$18,888*
\$305/mo.**

'97 Sunfire
Stk #102004
\$6,999*
\$129/mo.**

'95 Crown Victoria
Stk #102014
\$7,488*
\$134/mo.**

'97 Escort 4 Door
Stk #106774
\$4,999*
\$99/mo.**

'98 Ranger
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\$9,999*
\$178/mo.**

'92 Cougar
Stk #122004
\$3,938*
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MAIN LOT USED CARS 734-641-6205

AFFORDABLES 734-721-5020

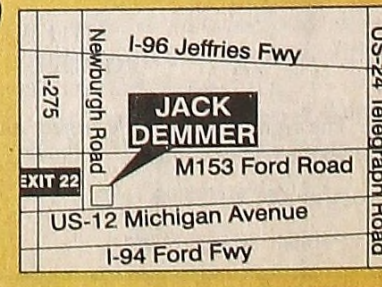
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MODEL	Down Payment	Total Due At Incept
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2001 EXPLORER SPORT TRAC 4X4	0 Down 1500 Down	\$ 486 \$2007
2001 TAURUS SE	0 Down 1500 Down	\$ 430 \$1972
2001 WINDSTAR LX	0 Down 1500 Down	\$ 452 \$1997
2001 F-150 4X2 SUPERCAB	0 Down 1500 Down	\$ 387 \$1908
2001 EXPLORER XLT 4X4 4 DOOR	0 Down 1500 Down	\$ 529 \$2053
2001 RANGER 4X2 REGULAR CAB XLT	0 Down 1300 Down	\$ 343 \$1660
2001 EXPEDITION XLT 4x4	0 Down 1500 Down	\$ 627 \$2149

1998 & 1999 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Sale Hours:
MON., & THURS. 8 AM - 9 PM
TUES., WEDS., FRI. 8 AM - 6 PM

Service Hours:
MON. & THURS. 8 AM - 9 PM
TUES., WEDS., FRI. 8 AM - 6 PM

Ford SVT SPECIAL VEHICLE TEAM

A Salute to



Workers

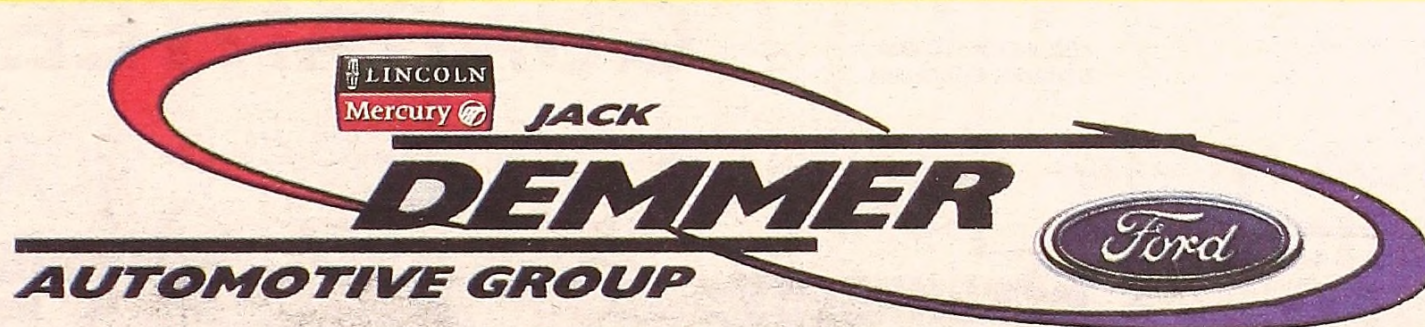
Ford workers rewarded for a job well done

Michigan Monthly

A Supplement to The Michigan Community Newspapers

March 8, 2001

www.aplanheadquarters.com



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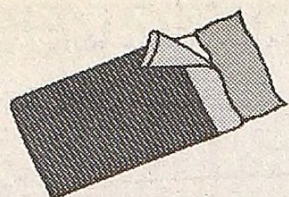
37300 MICHIGAN AVE. AT NEWBURGH, WAYNE

734-721-2600

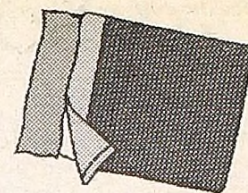
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HOURS: Monday - Friday 10-8 Saturday 10-6 Sunday Noon-5

Ford bonuses average \$6700 per employee

Ford Motor Co. announced a couple of weeks ago that Ford's 79,000 hourly employees will receive an average profit-sharing check this week that tips the \$6,700.00 mark.

Although down from last year's \$8,000 average, Ford bonuses are a windfall when compared to GM's \$800 and Chrysler's \$375 per hourly employee. In fact, out of all auto companies reporting, Ford employees received bonuses higher than any other with the exception of Mercedes employees who raked in \$7,150.

Visteon Corps. 24,000 hourly workers also will receive Ford profit-sharing checks even though the parts maker was spun off from Ford last year.

"The latest bonuses are a testimony to the strength of our team at Ford...a team that delivers in good times and in challenging times," noted Jacques Nasser, Ford president and chief executive officer.

The substantial payout, to be distributed on Wednesday, is a sign of Ford's relative health compared to crosstown rivals General Motors and Daimler-Chrysler.

Ford claimed a profit of \$1.2 billion, or 64 cents a share, in operating profit in the fourth quarter of 2000, compared with \$1.8 billion, or 83 cents a share, a year earlier. The results exclude the spinoff of Visteon.

Fourth-quarter revenues dropped slightly to \$42.6 billion from \$43.9 billion a year earlier. The difference, ac-



Ford Focus

cording to analysts, is the result of a jittery U.S. stock market, bad weather in December and the prolonged presidential deadlock.

Interestingly enough, Ford's beleaguered European operations showed signs of life, posting a profit for the fourth quarter.

For all of 2000, profits from Ford's continuing operations fell to \$6.67 billion compared to \$6.8 billion in 1999. Net profits for 2000 were posted at \$3.5 billion, down from \$7.2 billion in 1999.

Ford lost an estimated \$1 billion in 2000 because of vehicle recalls and problem-plagued vehicle launches.

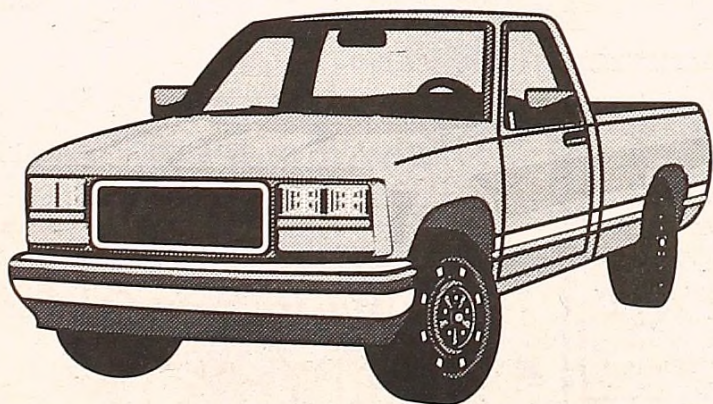
Revenue for the year actually posted a record \$170.1 billion compared to \$160.7 billion in 1999.

For 2001, Ford hopes to hike revenues by 5 billion, generate a 4 percent return on sales in North America and reduce costs by \$1 billion.

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*Ford Workers Stop by & see our
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Ford hopes new 2002 Thunderbird will sell big

Ford Motor Company hopes to excite auto enthusiasts with the unveiling of the all-new 2002 Ford Thunderbird.

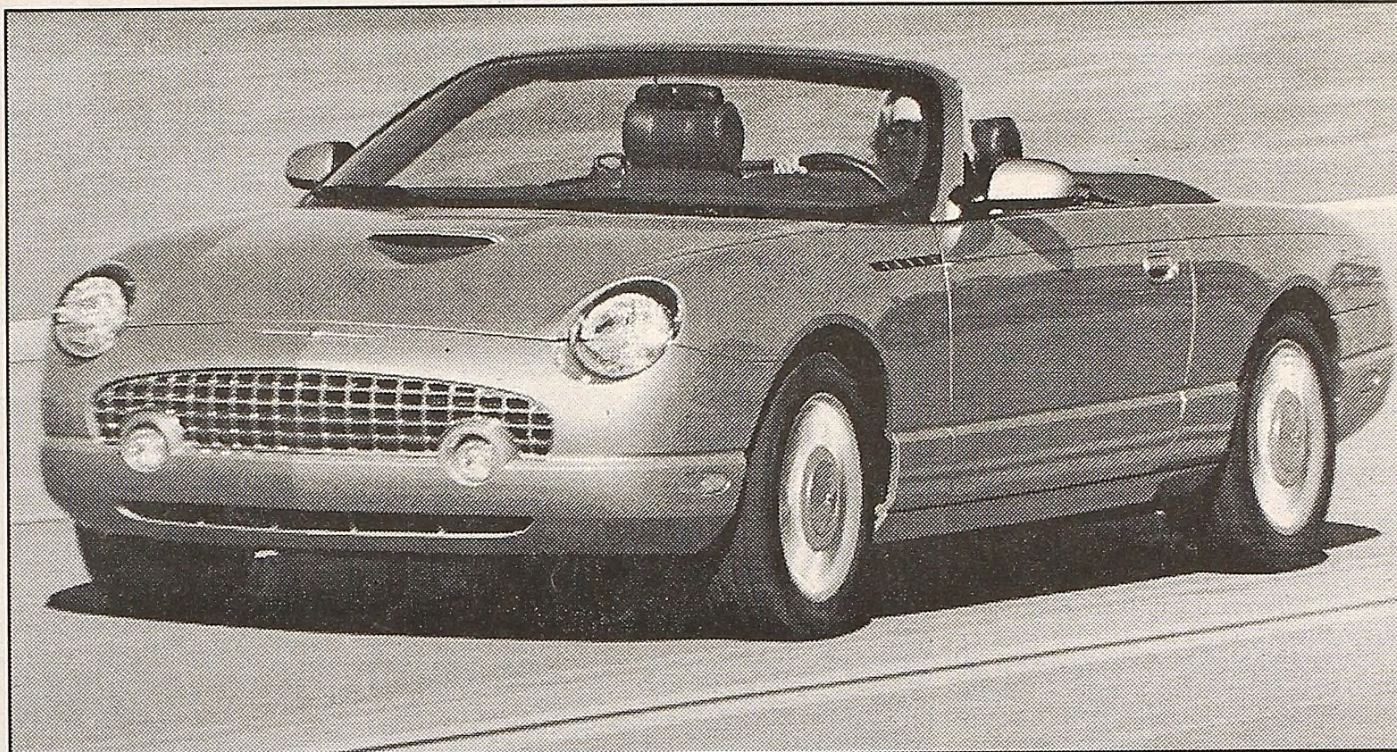
"This car, its style, the statement it makes, the feelings it evokes - all will make it an icon in its own right," said Jim O'Connor, president of Ford Division. "For those who, like me, really loved the original Thunderbirds, this moment has been 45 years in the making."

Dealer showrooms began displaying the new Thunderbird in late January. On January 8th, dealers were officially allowed to take orders for the vehicle which began regular production a few weeks ago.

The new Thunderbird is a two-seat rear-wheel-drive, V-8 powered, convertible roadster. An optional convertible top with classic porthole windows is available. The 83-pound top is easily fastened with a pin-and-bolt system at the two front attachments and two clamps at the rear.

Under the hood the Thunderbird has power to spare with the all-aluminum 3.9-liter DOHC V-8, and a five-speed automatic transmission. Four wheel anti-lock disc brakes are standard and employ electronic brake force distribution.

The Thunderbird nameplate is one of the most recognized of all cars. The sporty two-seat roadster of the 50's and now of today, was replaced in the late 50's with a full-sized luxury family



2002 Thunderbird

sedan that was marketed to the masses. Known as "Square Birds" the bigger Thunderbird became a huge hit when Ford needed a bigtime volume seller.

In the early 60's the Thunderbird shed its square design to a car that personified a futuristic image with a smooth aerodynamic appearance. It

was dubbed the "Bullet Bird."

The new Ford Thunderbird was a big hit as a concept car at the 2000 auto show. In September 2000, upscale retailer Neiman Marcus ordered 200 of the special edition 2002 Thunderbirds and made them available for early or-

ders in its annual Christmas Book. The black and silver cars were priced at \$41,995 and sold out in a record time of 2 hours, 15 minutes.

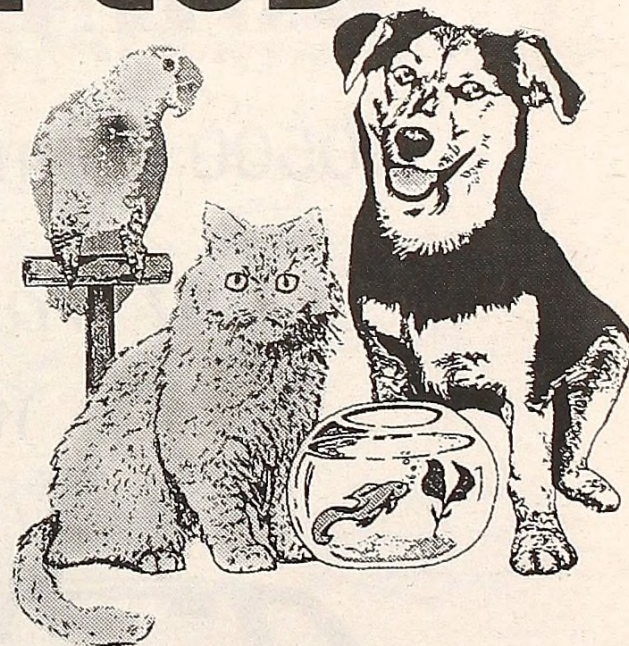
25,000 new Thunderbirds will be built at the Ford Wixom Assembly Plant this year.

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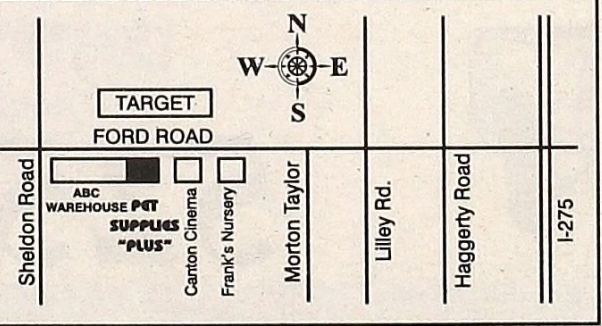
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Ford Expedition only SUV to earn top crash ruling

The Ford Expedition has become the only Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) to earn a double five-star rating in U.S. government frontal crash testing.

"All of our SUVs perform well in real-world situations and consumer crash tests," said Gurminder Bedi, vice president, Truck Product Development. "However, this accomplishment is special because we had to reach this level of crash test performance without jeopardizing any of the advancements we've made in the area of vehicle-to-vehicle compatibility."

Expedition was able to earn the government's top rating for frontal crash tests because of additional en-

hancements to the SUV's restraint system. For 2001, the Expedition's safety belt system is equipped with technologies called pretensioners and energy management retractors.

Pretensioners are special devices located in the retractors of the front-seat safety belts. They tighten the belts and help prevent belted occupants from sliding and bouncing around during a crash.

If crash forces rise to severe levels, a metal bar tucked in the center of the spool of the safety belt retractor - called an energy management retractor - twists like a wrung-out washcloth.

Such action releases small amounts of safety belt webbing in a

controlled manner and helps reduce the risk of force-related injuries, especially to the occupant's chest.

These technologies build on the Expedition's existing strong structural performance in crashes. Its safety cage is designed to absorb forces from a crash, helping to reduce the forces reaching either occupants of the SUV or another vehicle that may be involved in the crash.

The Expedition continues to be the best-selling full-size SUV in the U.S. "Expedition provides the capabilities to experience the 'real' outdoors in surprising comfort and control," said Doug Walczak, Expedition marketing manager.

"The vehicle's double five-star crash rating is further evidence that it provides the confidence and capability for rugged adventure."

The 2001 model year Expedition was crash-tested by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in December. The test consists of crashing the Expedition into a fixed concrete barrier at 35 mph, creating essentially the same conditions as two identical vehicles colliding head-on while each is traveling at 35 mph. Then, scientists examine impact data provided by instrumented dummies inside the vehicle during the crash test.

Paying special attention to head and chest injury data, government researchers from the National High-

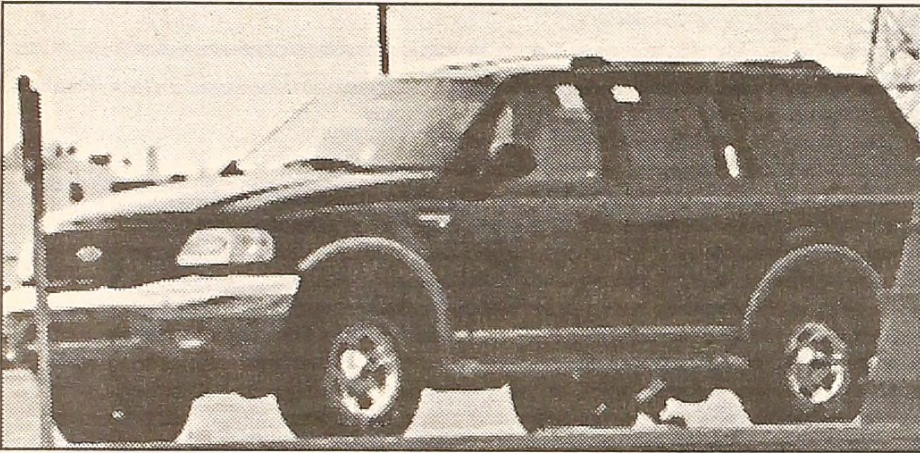
way Traffic Safety Administration assign a "star" ranking that corresponds to the level of risk the dummies had in this test of experiencing a serious head or chest injury.

NHTSA has said that a five-star rating indicates that in its 35mph frontal crash test, the belted dummy measurements correlated to a 10 percent or less chance of any serious head or chest injury.

While Expedition and similarly sized SUVs are not tested for side impacts, all Ford sport utility vehicles are rated at five or four stars for both applicable frontal and side impact testing conducted by NHTSA.

The Expedition began production in 1997. It is produced at the Michigan Truck Plant in Wayne, Michigan. For the 2000 model year, Ford had 10 vehicles to earn double five-star ratings, more than any other automaker.

While many more will still be tested by NHTSA, so far for 2001, eight Ford Motor Company vehicles have earned double five-star frontal crash ratings. Both the Mercury Villager minivan and Lincoln Town Car have also reached this level for the first time. Other double five-star Ford Motor Company vehicles are: Ford Focus, Taurus and Ranger electric pickup truck, Mercury Sable, and Volvo S80.



2002 Ford Expedition

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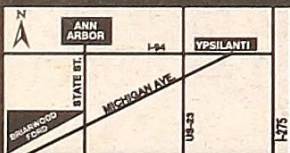
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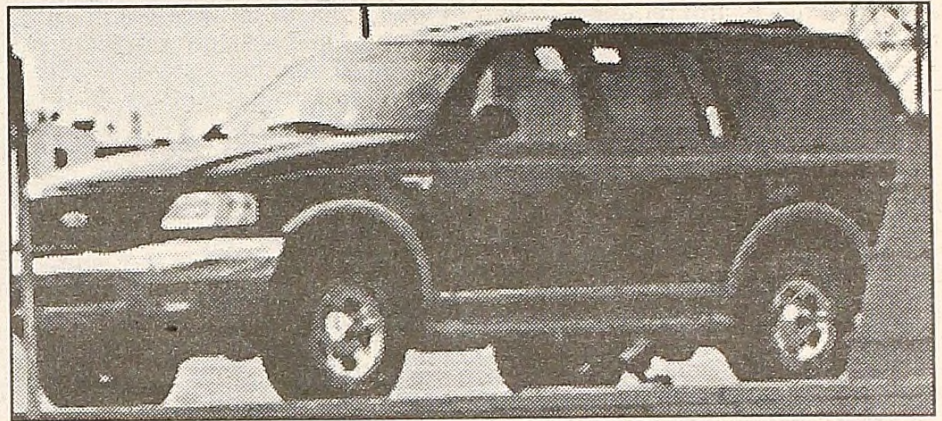


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Ford takes a shot with the Bullitt

Taking aim at a performance legend of the past, Ford is introducing the 2001 Mustang Bullitt GT, a performance derivative inspired by the 1968 Mustang Fastback that co-starred with Steve McQueen in the classic Warner Bros. Pictures film, "Bullitt."

The decision to put the Bullitt into production came after Ford received overwhelming positive response from consumers who first saw a concept version of the car at the 2000 Los Angeles Auto Show.

"The movie has some of the greatest car-chase scenes ever filmed," says Ford Division President, Jim O'Connor. "The 1968 Fastback Mustang GT 390, driven by Steve McQueen, created an indelible image in the minds of millions of people. We have taken some of the passion from the Hollywood film and put it into an exciting new car."

The 2001 Bullitt features exterior enhancements that visually and emotionally connect it to the 1968 Fastback from the film. These modifications include unique side scoops, 17-inch Bullitt-style aluminum wheels and a lowered suspension.

The C-pillars and quarter panel molding have been modified to create a unique look. Rocker-panel moldings enhance the low-to-the-ground appearance. A bold, brushed aluminum fuel filler door is prominently placed on the quarter panel.

Bullitt badging and polished-rolled

tailpipe tips further distinguish the car. Bullitt is available in Dark Highland Green, True Blue, and Black.

The heart of Bullitt GT is a 4.6L SOHC V-8 modified to improve airflow and reduce parasitic losses. It produces more horsepower and significantly more torque than the Mustang GT engine. Modifications include: C Twin throttle body, cast aluminum intake manifold, high flow mufflers for increased power and aggressive performance sound, optimized alternator and pump pulley ratios. Bullitt's suspension translates this power into crisp road manners. The vehicle is lowered three-fourths of an inch to generate a firmer, better-balanced ride and improved handling characteristics.

The performance-handling package includes: Re-valved Tokico struts and shocks, Unique stabilizer bars (front and rear), Frame rail connectors. Thirteen-inch Brembo front rotors and performance calipers provide excellent stopping capability.

The calipers are painted red and are visible through the 17-inch wheels spokes when the car is parked or when it is cruising the streets of San Francisco.

"Bullitt is quick off the line, handles great, stops fast and shifts easily with improved pedal relationship," says Art Hyde, Mustang chief program engineer. "This is the best performing GT we have ever produced."

Inside, Bullitt features performance bucket seats with Dark Charcoal leather trim. A brushed aluminum shifter ball, bright shifter bezel, aluminum door sill plates with Bullitt nomenclature and aluminum pedal covers accent the interior's performance appearance. The instrument cluster is a modern interpretation of 1960s design and offers unique curved numeric speedometer graphics and a white-lit background.

"With the Mustang Bullitt, we have a lot of functional features that would make Steve McQueen and Lt. Frank Bullitt proud today," says O'Connor. "Bullitt has elevated the GT into an unforgettable car that enhances Ford's performance reputation and builds on Mustang's performance tradition that began with vehicles like the Mach 1, Boss 302 and the 428 Cobra Jet."

All these features are included for a

package price of \$3,695 MSRP. There will be a limited production of Mustang Bullitt GTs built on the same line of the Dearborn Assembly Plant that produces the V6, GT and Cobra Mustangs.

Each Bullitt will come with a unique serialized identification label from the factory to ensure exclusivity and collectability. Steve McQueen's heirs and Warner Bros. have been working closely with Ford on this project and look forward to honoring the memory of Mr. McQueen.

And if the 2001 Mustang Bullitt GT is any indication, the Bullitt legend will have a brand new chapter.

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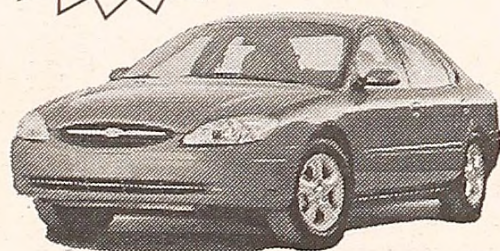
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Bonuses won in hard fought bargaining sessions

By DIANE ARETZ
MCN Special Writer

In 1999, the UAW renewed the contract between its members and Ford Motor Company-the contract which obliged the auto company to pay out its hourly employees a certain percentage of their total profits.

This aspect of the contract was first negotiated in 1982 and signed a year later and was based on several variables: the sales and profits of Ford's U.S. operations, the amount of pay earned by each individual worker during the fiscal year including pay scales and overtime.

Today, 18 years later, UAW members are enjoying a share of Ford Motor Company's second highest profits since the program was instituted. The formula hasn't changed; just the level of profits.

Last year, in 1999, hourly UAW union members took home checks averaging \$8,000. This year, those same employees will be enjoying \$6,700 in profit shares come Wednesday, March 7, when Ford will be issuing checks to UAW workers.

Profit sharing is the once-controversial idea hatched and urged by the United Auto Worker's union. Their idea was simple and fair. Recognizing the fact that American auto companies and their executives are faring ever-better with profits climbing to record levels and shareholder value soaring, the UAW wanted to ensure, for one, that profits were not made at the cost of

their workers.

Often, the UAW understood the strategy of the Big Three to be one of "restructuring" and "cost-cutting"- euphemisms for cutting jobs and holding the line on workers' wages and benefits. The UAW further took note of the flagrantly increasing base salaries of corporate managers and other higher-ups, who also enjoyed swelling bonuses, stock options and other privileges not afforded to UAW's members.

At the time that observations were being made, talk was bubbling and plans surfacing, it was thought that profit sharing would be the enemy of the corporation, unrightly draining them of profits.

In 1999, the UAW sought to improve on the agreements of the original and other previous contracts, focusing on increasing the profits gained by its members, establishing profit sharing in those UAW workplaces that didn't have such plans.

They further sought to expand on profit sharing programs so that they might compare to the "enormous inequities inherent in executive compensation practices in this country," according to a press release. They found success with the Ford Motor Company in 1999 when they urged its employers to establish a direct link between the profit sharing of hourly workers and the general compensation of corporate executives.

Ford was also open when the UAW induced the auto company to eliminate

the negative impact on profit sharing resulting from adjustments in executive compensation packages, mergers, plant closings, spin-offs, consolidations and other forms of restructuring and the many changes in accounting rules and practices. "Protection of our workers is our job," stated one UAW official. "These policies have been instituted to ensure the continuing relationship between Ford and our workers."

Ford was the first of the Big Three to sign on in 1983, and since then, things have changed. Today, profit sharing has seemed to strengthen the relationship between auto companies and their workers. The company is enjoying record profits, and workers are getting a piece of the pie.

Many of these workers have been with Ford for more than 20 years and see the profit sharing as a fair and right addition to their contracts, which are negotiated every three or four years.

Robert Rezin of Westland has worked for Ford's Warehouse Parts Division for 23 years. He anticipates Wednesday's check, claiming, "I'm going to use it to pay off some bills, maybe do a little remodeling in the house." He seems cheery at receiving what he believes he and his fellow UAW members are entitled to. "If the company is doing so well, it is because the workers are performing at the best of their ability. They deserve to be recognized and rewarded for that."

William Vock has been a cleaner for the Ford Motor Company for 28 years

and has enjoyed the profits curried over the past 16 years (for three years-1990, '91 and '92-Ford made no profits; UAW members saw none). What will he do with his share of the pie? "I'll be divvying it up amongst my children, I guess!" he laughed. He feels strongly that the UAW is pursuing a good cause in profit sharing. "If the company is going to make money, so should its employees," he emphatically noted.

For 27 years, Hector Lebert has worked for Ford's Wayne Assembly Plant. He plans to "save the money," received on Wednesday. "For many years I worked at Ford and the agreement wasn't in place," Lebert recalled. "The executives in Dearborn were making all that money off of our backs. We are entitled to a piece of the pie."

Sam Welsley, a 26-year employee of Ford, plans to use his money, "to pay off some debts, maybe save up to take my wife on a vacation!" He feels certain that the institution of the profit sharing agreement is good and right. "The UAW has fought for worker's rights, and this is definitely a worker's rights issue. It's not good to see the bigwigs making all the money off of our worker. Profit sharing has eliminated that concern."

Diane Teeters agrees. A 23-year employee in Ford Motor Company's Parts Division, Teeters plans to use her money to "pay off bills!" She asserted plainly that, "Yes, we should receive profit shares. We are the people doing the actual physical work for the company!"

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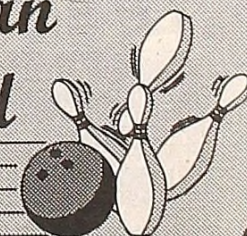
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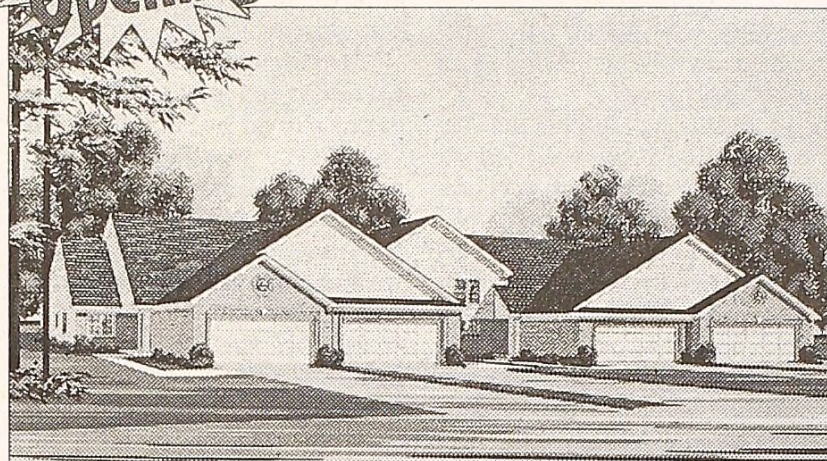
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Ford shares impressive profits with hourly workers

By DIANE ARETZ
MCN Special Writer

Of the 750,000 UAW union members, a sizeable 103,000 are hourly employees for the Ford Motor Company, including the 24,000 employed at Visteon Corp., a subsidiary of Ford.

Come Wednesday, March 7, the automotive company will be making those individuals very happy.

The profit sharing aspect of the contract between the UAW and Ford (as well as the other Big Three corporations) was introduced and agreed upon 18 years ago, in 1983. That year, the average check issued per employee was \$400. At that time, salaried workers themselves shared a piece of the pie—an aspect of the contract that was aborted in 1999.

"They were removed from the contract and their merit and bonus plans were adjusted separately," explained Ed Miller of Ford Motor Company's World Headquarters in Dearborn.

The re-negotiation of the UAW contract with Ford and the rest of the Big Three was agreed upon in 1999. Based on a four-year contract, profit sharing will be up for re-examination again in 2003. Its success will probably ensure its future, as Ford likely notes its exuberant effect on employee morale.

Though profits have vacillated from high and low in the 18 years since the profit sharing plan has been instituted, "the formula hasn't changed," according to Miller. The money that goes into the Profit Sharing Plan is based on the sales and profits of Ford's U.S. operations, excluding certain non-automotive subsidiaries.

The payments made to each individual employee are based on the amount of pay earned by each worker during the calendar year. In other words, pay scales and overtime are figured into checks. If Ford Motor Company doesn't make any profits in a given year, hourly UAW members likewise do not receive a share of profits in the form of a bonus check. This was the case in 1990, 1991 and 1992 alike—years when profits proved to be zero. Most years have seen some increase. In 1984, the average profit sharing payment was \$2,000. In the following years it rose and fell from \$1,200 to \$2,100 to \$3,700 to \$2,800 to \$1,025. In 1993—after three bleak years—profits rose to the point that checks ascended back to \$1,350, then a record \$4,000, then \$1,700, \$1,800, \$4,400 and \$6,100 in 1998. In 1999, a record was set when profits rose to a whopping \$8,000 check per employee.

January 31 of this year, Ford World Headquarters announced the results

of the 2000 fiscal year, which ended Dec. 31. For a month, a team at Ford World Headquarters tallied the year's profits, eventually emerging with the average payout per UAW employee. The average check will be \$6,700, the second highest in Ford's 18 years of profit sharing.

Ford Motor Company is pleased with this result. "This is the 15th payout in 18 years of profit sharing at Ford, a record that we can be proud of," Jacques Nasser, President and CEO announced in a press statement. Ford apparently recognizes the efforts of their UAW employees and is happy to reward them and encourage their hard work."

When added together, the average payments for each year total \$4,275. This amount compares impressively to the other Big Three corporations, who have followed Ford's lead in participating in profit sharing.

Ford was the first of the Big Three to sign a contract with the UAW and it set a precedent by finding ways to cut costs by \$1 billion and save money—not at the workers' expense. Ford was the first to prove wrong the fear that "what is right for workers is wrong for the companies," according to a UAW representative. In its first year of profit sharing, Ford's U.S. auto operations generated

record profits of 1.2 billion.

While payout amounts were figured and administered by Ford Headquarters, its many plants all over the country will take the task of allocating checks to the 110,000 UAW members affected by the profit sharing. Though there were 103,000 active U.S. hourly UAW workers on the rolls at the end of 2000, the addition 7,000 benefited are attributable to replacement of retirees, other attrition and new hires.

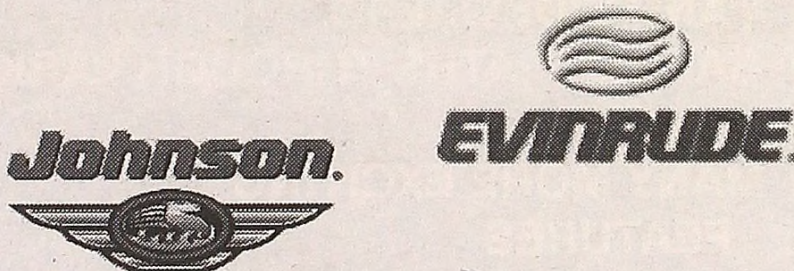
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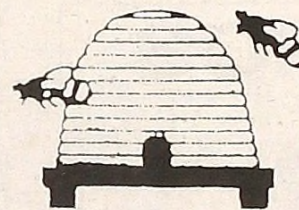
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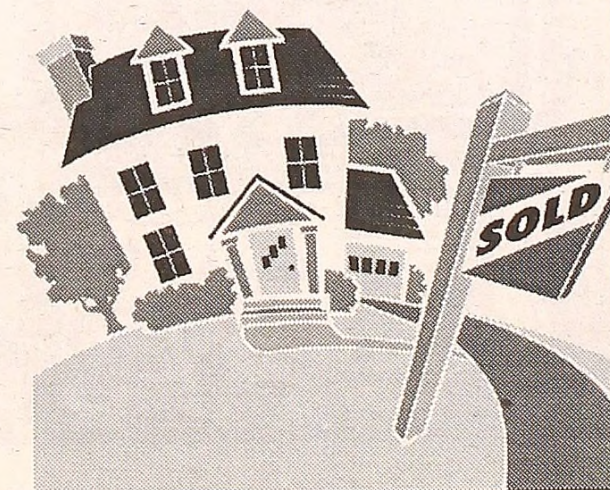
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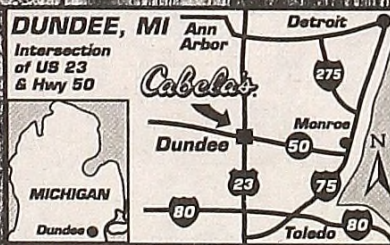
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Ford employees happy with bonuses

By GENA GIANNUZZI
MCN Special Writer

The \$6,700 Ford workers received on Wednesday, is a far cry from the \$800 earned by GM workers and the \$375 distributed to Chrysler employees. We talked to several Ford workers to determine what they would do with their large bonuses.

Vic Audette of Garden City has worked at Ford's for 29 years. "It's the best car company in the world," he said.

Audette is looking forward to his profit sharing check and is planning on taking all of his close friends out to Mountain Jack's for dinner when he gets it. This is something that he does for his friends every year with his profit sharing check. He plans on putting the rest aside to buy a new home.

Audette talked about the benefit package that Ford offers their employees which includes free legal services. "God has really blessed me at Ford's," he concluded.

Several other employees caught in the parking lot of the Ford Assembly Plant in Wayne, had only good things to say about Ford.

Steve, a 28 year Ford employee from Commerce Township said, "They (Ford's) has been very good to me." He said that the profit sharing check will be coming just in time to help him pay for his daughter's wedding. He expressed sympathy for workers from the other auto plants who aren't getting as much for their bonus, "We all work the same. It

just doesn't seem fair."

Andy Jones of Wayne said, "I consider myself lucky to work for Ford's." He plans to pay off his debts, spend a little, and put the rest away. "I feel sorry for the Chrysler workers. I wouldn't want to be them right now. We've been lucky ever since Ford started profit sharing."

12 year employee Jonnia Kientz thinks working at Ford is great. In acknowledging the reduction in size that Chrysler is undergoing, she said "I hope Ford keeps it up."

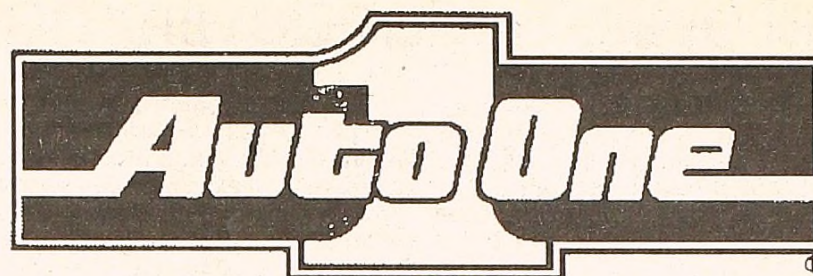
Romulus resident James Taylor commented, "I've been here over 20 years, so I'd say I like to be here. The profit sharing check will certainly help with the bills."

33 year employee Ron Harrison of Taylor said of his years at the Ford plant, "It's a job that pays the bills. It has had good and bad days, just like anywhere else." Harrison, who is retiring in August, plans to use his profit sharing check to pay off his truck, and to retire in Arizona because it is warmer there.

"I love it at Ford. You can't find better benefits," said Sam Makki of Dearborn Heights. "I am very happy here."

Job security was the number one benefit for Leo Salinas. He spoke of the health, and dental benefits. He plans on investing half of his profit sharing check in Ford stock, and spending the rest.

About the hardship Chrysler employees are undergoing during this time of downsizing Salinas concluded, "We are all brothers, but some companies do better than others."



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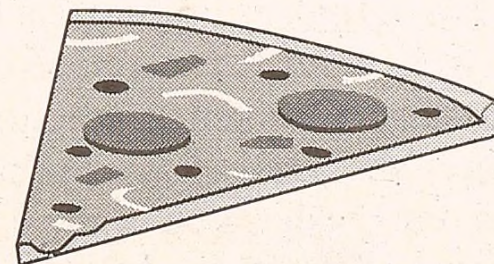
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Belleville's Mandeville hopes to revolutionize pool biz

Belleville businessman Doug Mandeville is clearly excited about his newest business. And, quite frankly one would have a hard time arguing the merits of his product, because if he is telling it like it is, the swimming pool business will never be the same.

Mandeville owns Prestige Pools, a business that he started a little over a year ago after attending a seminar in Orlando. Having owned pools most of his adult life and seeking a business that combined two interests of his - construction and outdoors - Prestige and Mandeville appear a perfect fit.

Prestige sells and installs fiberglass inground pools. Amazingly, an installation can take one day and the pool can be fully operational in a week's time.

"A customer can leave for work in the morning," said Mandeville, and by the time he returns home from a day's work, the pool will be installed and filled with water."

How so, you may ask? Mandeville claims it takes about three hours to dig the hole. The fiberglass pool is brought in in one whole piece and lifted by crane over homes, trees and wires and placed in the hole. Following this process, a water truck pumps the pool full of water.

It is a sight to behold explains Mandeville. "One installation that was done in Livonia last fall had about sixty neighbors gather as the huge fiberglass shell was lifted high over a home and placed in the backyard hole."

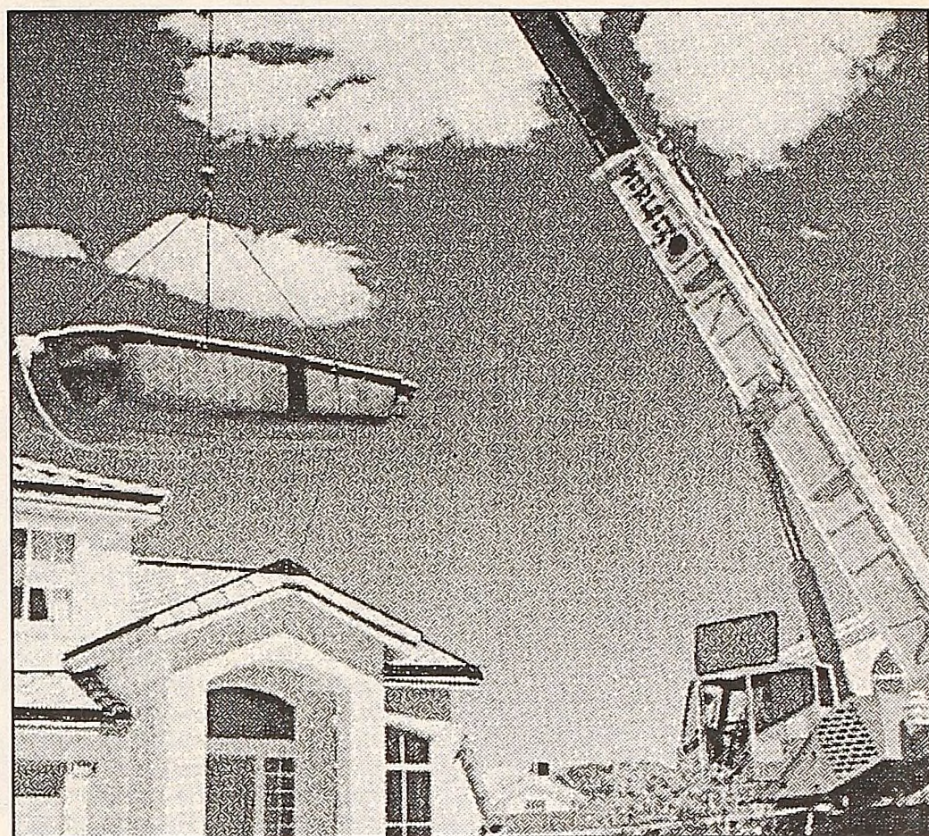
Mandeville cautions, however, that the pool is not necessarily ready to use in one day. The entire installation actually takes a week in most cases because building inspectors, electrical work and other items have to be tended to before the pool is swimmable. Considering that a gunite pool takes 4 to 6 weeks to install, the fiberglass installation time is remarkable.

Most features are remarkable when comparing fiberglass to gunite. For instance you never have to drain a fiberglass pool in the winter. Nor do you have to re-surface or paint a fiberglass pool every three years. Prestige, additionally offers a lifetime guarantee on any pool purchased. Most importantly the price of fiberglass pools is almost half what a good gunite pool would cost.

But there are more features. Most models have built-in bench seating. The fiberglass sides are smooth thus very comfortable to lean against, unlike gunite or cement pools that usually have rough edges.

An option that most buyers choose is the fiber-optic state-of-the-art colored lighting. Most people are amazed at the colorful glow the lighting produces. On most models, hot tub type water jets are also available.

Finally it is worth noting that fiberglass inground pools add equity to your home. Above ground pools, Mandeville notes, "add zero dollars to your home value."



A Prestige pool is lifted by crane and set into a pre-dug shell.

Fiberglass pools are widely popular in the southwest. Three manufacturers-Viking, American and Aloha- are the leaders in this growing craze, and Prestige represents all three in southeast Michigan.

Fiberglass pools come in all sizes starting with an 8' x 12' commercial spa to a 17' x 42'.

Prestige Pools is located at 879 Sumpter Road, in Belleville. Their phone number is 699-6969.

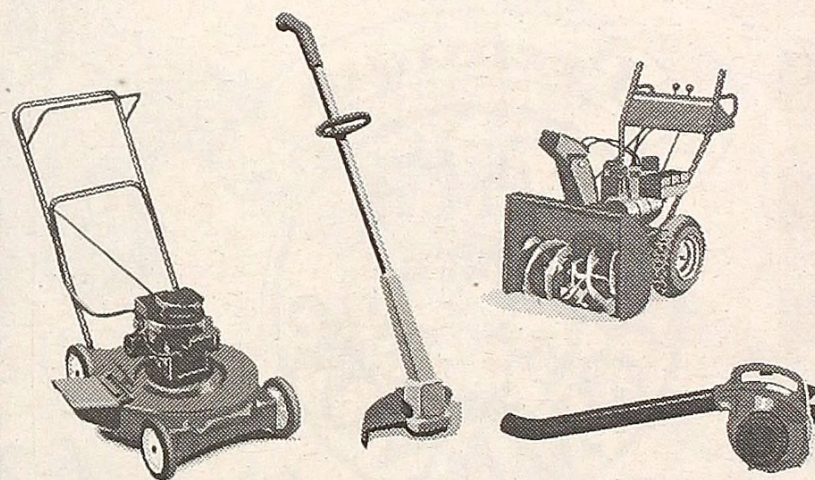
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Jack Demmer purchases Dearborn Lincoln-Mercury dealership

The Jack Demmer Automotive Group made a major announcement in late December that they had purchased the nation's fourth largest Lincoln-Mercury dealership- Krug Lincoln-Mercury in Dearborn.

The Krug Dealership, which has been a landmark in Dearborn, will now be called Jack Demmer Lincoln-Mercury. Located at 21531 Michigan Ave., the dealership covers 6.1 acres and 268,456 square feet of building space.

"It is an honor to continue the legacy of Sig Krug," said Bill Demmer, president of Demmer Automotive Group. "We at Demmer will work hard to continue that legacy," he added.

In addition to the extensive new vehicle inventory- typically 750 vehicles- the Demmer Group has added several new features to the dealership, such as spot delivery of vehicles, and a new valet service.

Additionally, The Demmer Group hopes to bring their website expertise to the Lincoln-Mercury store.

HYPERLINK

"<http://www.demmer.com>"

HYPERLINK "<http://www.aplan-headquarters.com>", are Demmer websites that have helped to boost sales at the Ford dealership.

"Our websites have been very successful," noted Bill Demmer. "We have four people who are dedicated to working our websites. That's unheard of at a dealership."

The Demmer websites were fea-

tured on a special report produced and broadcast on CNN last Spring.

The Dearborn dealership is a great fit for Demmer's Ford dealership that is located in Wayne and usually has 900-plus cars and trucks in stock. The two businesses are only eight miles apart, which should make it easy for the father-and-son Demmer team to oversee the two locations.

The Demmer Group employs about 170 people at the two locations. A third location, Demmer Lincoln-Mercury in Farmington was transferred back to Ford Motor Co., as part of the deal with Krug.

"We have enjoyed the relationships we've developed in Farmington over the last two years, and we'll continue them by providing uninterrupted service, including free pick-up and delivery," added Demmer. "Our customers will receive the same excellent service at the Dearborn location."

Bill Demmer said that the purchase is akin to homecoming, for the Demmer's. Father, Jack, has been a resident of Dearborn since 1952, and is very well respected in the business community. A few years ago he and several partners established the Community Bank of Dearborn.

The idea of buying the Krug dealership occurred in late October, as Sig Krug was battling cancer.

Having known the Demmer's for years, Krug selected Jack, as the one person he wanted to sell his dealership



Jack Demmer with sons Jim and Bill Demmer.

to. On December 14, a few days after the purchase was completed, Krug, 77, died.

Jack Demmer Ford was founded in 1957 as an Edsel dealership in Westland. It located to South Lyon in 1960.

The dealership moved to Wayne in 1969, where it has been a fixture ever since.

Hours at both dealerships are 9 to 9 Monday and Thursday and 9 to 6 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

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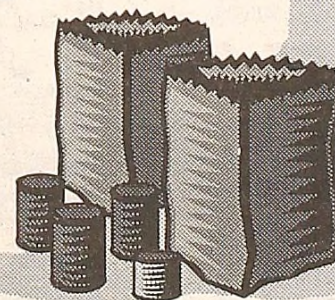
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2002, Ford Explorer prices begin at \$24,620

The 2002 Ford Explorer is the next generation of the best-selling sport utility vehicle in the world. The new Explorer is redesigned from the ground up - with major improvements in package, suspension, powertrains and safety.

The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Prices for the 2002 Ford Explorer range from \$24,620 (including destination and delivery charges of \$600) for the XLS series to \$28,380 (including destination and delivery charges) for the XLT series to \$32,690 (including destination and delivery) for the Eddie Bauer and Limited series.

The volume model, an XLT 4x4 equipped with the standard 4.0-liter V-6 engine and optional premium electronic AM/FM stereo/clock/single CD will carry a base MSRP of \$30,475 (including D&D charges).

The New Explorer "The Ford Explorer redefined the sport utility segment and pioneered the way for the entire industry when it was introduced in 1990. For more than 10 years running, Explorer has been the best-selling SUV in the world," said Jim O'Connor, Ford Division President. "But we're not resting our laurels. The all-new Explorer for the 2002-model year continued to innovate - with technological improvements in safety, roominess, ride and comfort, all intended to lead the industry into the future."

Explorer is designed to be rugged



2002 Ford Explorer

and contemporary to complement the Ford "Outfitters" SUV family. The new four-door Explorer has a clear, powerful vehicle stance and proportions enhanced by simple, rounded forms that build on the vehicle's classically popular design theme.

With a new independent rear suspension (IRS) system and unique "porthole-in-frame" design - allowing for a lower step-in height and a third row seat - Explorer is designed to offer an improved ride and more comfortable, user-friendly package. Ford Explorer also offers customers many

standard and optional features that make it stand out from the competition. Some of those product features include: 2.5-inch wider stance and 2-inch longer wheelbase than current model for improved appearance, handling and roominess - while maintaining the same vehicle length and height. Larger door openings and lower step-in height for better ingress and egress.

Optional adjustable pedals (optional on XLT, standard (with memory) on Eddie Bauer/Limited), a tilting and telescoping steering wheel (standard on Eddie Bauer/Limited only) and Re-

verse Sensing System (optional on all) for better driver comfort and convenience.

Improved Control Trac four-wheel-drive system. Better off-road capability with increased ground clearance and better approach and departure angles. New all-aluminum 4.6-liter SOHC V-8 engine as an option to the improved 4.0-liter SOHC V-6. New automatic and manual transmissions. New side-impact curtain air bag system, as well as rollover protection sensors (available later in 2001). New AdvanceTrac interactive vehicle system combining the benefits of traction control and electronic stability (yaw) control (available later in 2001).

Ford Personal Safety System, including driver and passenger dual-stage air bags and deployment characteristics (available later in 2001). Lower front bumper for better SUV compatibility with other vehicles on the road.

Substantially stiffer bodyshell and thousands of noise control measures for better NVH. 15-percent reduction in annual operating costs thanks to easier serviceability and longer intervals between scheduled maintenance.

Available in dealerships beginning in early 2001, the 2002-model Explorer will be built at Ford Motor Company's Louisville, Ky., and St. Louis, Mo., assembly plants. Production begins in late 2000.

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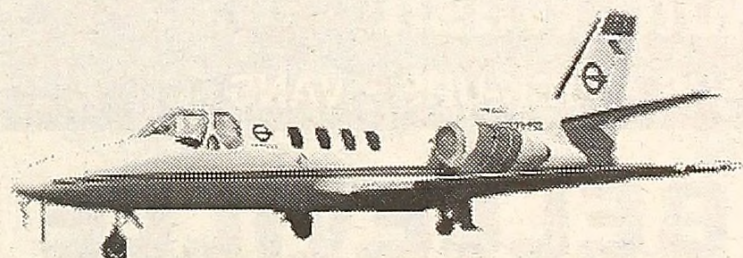
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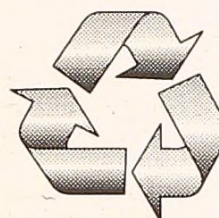
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Michigan Truck Plant earns high rating in Harbour Report Sport Utility category

Harbour ranks six Ford truck plants in the top 10. Ford plants capture top ranking in 11 of 12 vehicle segments

Ford Motor Company grabbed top honors in the 2000 Harbour Report released today for operating the most efficient car and truck assembly plants in North America. Ford also has the best overall assembly plant productivity of the domestic manufacturers.

Ford's Twin Cities (Minn.) Assembly Plant, which builds Ford Ranger series trucks, and Atlanta (Ga.) Assembly Plant, which builds Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable cars, were ranked first in productivity by the Harbour study among all U.S., Canadian and Mexican assembly plants.

"Twin Cities and Atlanta have been extremely successful in applying Ford manufacturing principles that drive quality and eliminate waste throughout their operations," said Jim Padilla, group vice president of manufacturing. "They have set an industry standard and understand the work and dedication required to achieve leadership in such a competitive arena. They continue to demonstrate how to build customer satisfaction through manufacturing superiority."

The Harbour Report is a widely recognized and quoted analysis of manu-

facturing productivity in the North American automotive industry. The report measures assembly, stamping and powertrain productivity performances on a plant-by-plant basis.

In total, Ford captured six of the top 10 truck assembly plant slots in the Harbour ranking and two of the top 10 car assembly plant slots. Ford also dominated the report when ranked by vehicle segment, securing 11 of the 12 top plant rankings in North America.

Measured in hours per vehicle (actual hours paid divided by production in the period studied), Ford facilities outperformed plants operated by other manufacturers including General Motors, DaimlerChrysler, Nissan, Toyota and Honda.

Among the top 10 North American truck plants were Ford's St. Louis plant (fourth), Edison (fifth), Louisville (sixth), Norfolk (seventh) and Lorain (10th).

In addition to Atlanta, Ford's Chicago Assembly plant placed fourth among the top 10 car plants measured in hours per vehicle. Chicago also produces the Taurus and Sable.

Ford assembly plants also ranked first in the 2000 Harbour Report in the following vehicle segments: Compact Car - Kansas City Assembly, which built

Ford Contour and Mercury Mystique. Midsize Car - Atlanta Assembly, builds the Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable. Large Car - St. Thomas, which builds the Ford Crown Victoria and Mercury Grand Marquis. Luxury Car - Wixom Assembly, which builds Lincoln Town Car, Continental and LS. Sports Car - Dearborn Assembly, which produces Ford Mustang. Midsize Sport Utility - St. Louis Assembly, which builds Ford Explorer. Full Size Sport Utility - Michigan Truck, which builds Ford Expedition and Lincoln Navigator. Small Size Pickup - Twin Cities Assembly, which builds the Ford Ranger. Full Size Pickup - Norfolk Assembly, which builds Ford F-series. Minivans - Oakville Assembly, which builds the Ford Windstar. Large Vans - Lorain Assembly, which builds Ford Econoline.

Despite these impressive individual plant results, Padilla said Ford must work harder to improve its rate of overall company productivity. "Our competition is getting better, and we need to work harder, faster and smarter to bring superior products to market," Padilla said. "We have tremendous opportunities, and as we continue to incorporate technologies like the Ford Production System, Consumer Driven Six Sigma and e-commerce into our op-

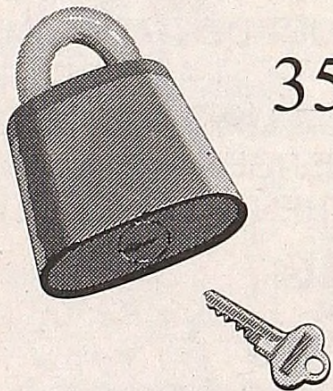
erations, we will gain efficiency and a new level of quality and cost effectiveness."

Ford's Chicago and Maumee stamping plants ranked among the top 10 in North America in a majority of stamping measures. But overall, Ford's stamping plant efficiency dropped slightly, and Padilla noted the company has opportunities to make significant improvements in its stamping productivity by adopting more rigorous manufacturing and design standards.

"We have tremendous opportunities in stamping, and we are placing a renewed emphasis on stamping," Padilla said. "But we are going to approach how we make improvements carefully. This is a good news, bad news story."

Ford's engine productivity results also dropped slightly in year-over-year comparisons - a fact that Ford had anticipated in response to its overall product strategy. The company's Romeo Engine Plant topped the Harbour study as the most productive V-8 engine plant in North America. But with a migration to more high content and complex truck powertrains, Ford is reducing automation levels and planning lower volume lines.

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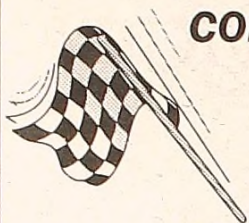
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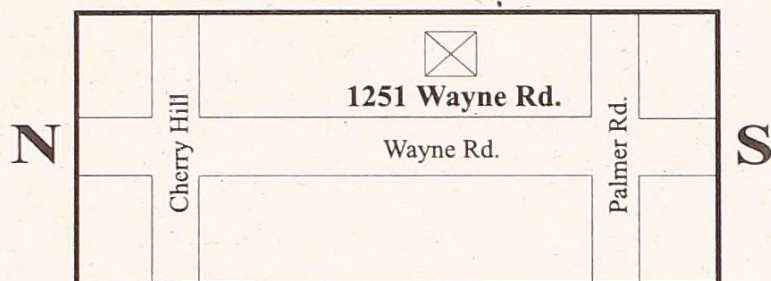


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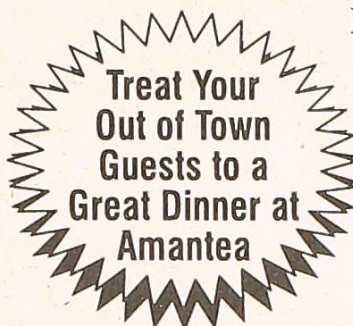
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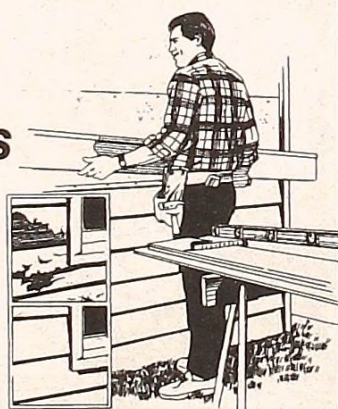
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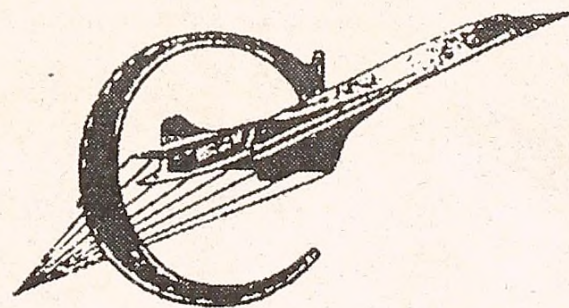
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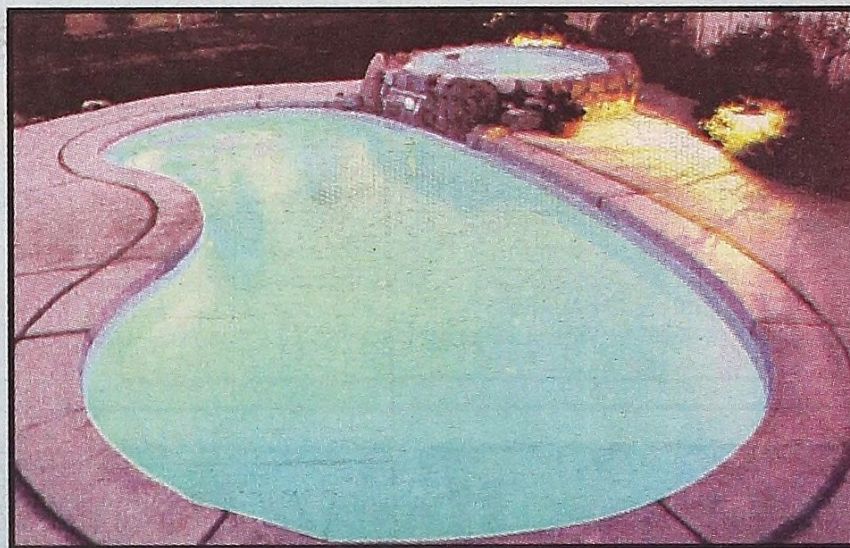
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